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AND China Overland Trade Report.

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MARRIAGE.

At Chinkiang, on the 8th August, by the Rev. J. Chevalier, S.J., PIERCE ESSEX O'BRIEN-BUTLER, of H.B.M. Consular Service, China, to MARY MILLICENT, eldest daughter of Mr. T. J. O. WEATHERSTON.

BIRTH.

At 5, Mosque Terrace, on the 13th inst., the wife of J. STOPANI, of a daughter. [1884]

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The American mail of the 21st July arrived, per O. & O. steamer *Doric*, on the 13th August (23 days); and the French mail of the 12th July arrived, per M. M. steamer *Sydney*, on the 15th August (34 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The King and Queen of Siam left Singapore for Bangkok on the 4th August.

The new treaty between France and Japan was signed at Paris on the 4th August.

Mr. E. F. Alford has been elected Chairman of the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce.

The signed text of the new treaty between China and Japan arrived in Tokyo on the 5th August.

The Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce has strongly protested against the increase in the rates charged by the Cable Companies.

The half-yearly meeting of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank was held on the 15th inst., when a very favourable statement of the position of the Bank was made by the Chairman.

At an extraordinary meeting of the shareholders of H. G. Brown & Co., Limited, held after the ordinary annual meeting on the 17th August, it was resolved that the Company be wound up voluntarily.

The O. & O. steamer *Gaelic*, while on the voyage from Nagasaki to Kobe, on the morning of the 13th August struck a rock off Zedsibi beacon, Shimonoseki, and had to be beached. Assistance was sent to her and the leak having been stopped she returned to Nagasaki, where she arrived on the 16th.

A notice has been issued in the native papers to the effect that the Chinese Telegraph Administration will pay, beginning the 18th instant, a dividend of ten per cent. per share (\$10), another ten per cent. as extra dividend (\$10), and another four per cent. (\$4) bank interest on deposit of reserve fund, or \$24 for each \$100 share for the half year.

From the report of a meeting of the Manila Sanitary Board published in another column it will be seen that the efforts to secure a reduction of the quarantine imposed at that port have resulted (up to the 10th inst.) only in a deduction of the time occupied by the voyage from the fifteen days enforced, and this only in the case of vessels having no Chinese on board.

A detailed report of the sinking of the German gunboat *Illis* has been received. The conduct of the doomed crew adds one more to the tales of heroism of the sea. Upon the captain informing them that there was no hope three cheers were raised for the Emperor, the song, "The flag black, white, red" was started by the chief gunner's mate, every one joining in the chorus, and thus the devoted men met their fate.

The British ship *Flora P. Stafford* was totally burnt at sea while on a voyage from Newcastle, N.S.W., to Manila. The fire was discovered on the 6th June, when the vessel was about 224 miles off land to the east of the Philippines, and on the 8th she was abandoned. The crew left her in three boats, two of which safely reached land, but the third, containing the mate and three seamen, has not since been heard of.

The half-yearly report of the Hongkong Hotel Co., Limited, has been issued. The profit and loss account, including a credit balance of \$8,175 brought forward from 31st December, 1895, shows a credit balance of \$22,024 (after writing off \$5,000 from furniture account—as recommended in last report—and paying \$4,574 for much-needed repairs to buildings, &c.) as compared with \$5,668 at credit on the 30th June, 1895, and \$2,765 at credit on 30th June, 1894. The directors propose to deal with the profit of \$22,024 by writing \$22,000 off the furniture account and carrying \$24 forward.

The report of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Limited, for the half-year ended 30th June, shows a net profit of \$569,073, to which has to be added \$54,474 brought forward from the last account, and the amount available for appropriation, after payment of directors' and auditors' fees, amounts to \$616,047. The directors recommend that a dividend for the half year of 8 per cent., or \$125,000, and a bonus of 4 per cent., or \$62,500, equalling together \$187,500, be paid to the shareholders, a bonus of \$20,000 to contributing shareholders, that \$24,602 be written from the value of Kowloon Docks, \$25,489 from Cosmopolitan Docks, and \$1,486 from the value of steamlaunches and lighter, that \$200,000 be passed to reserve fund, and that the balance of \$156,969 be carried to new account.

There is a prospect of Mr. Ng Choy—so rumour says—being nominated as Minister to the United States, Spain, Peru, and the Brazils. We heard some time ago that there was some difficulty at Peking in choosing a suitable man for the post on the retiring of Yang Tu, whose term of office is about to expire. The present choice is a very good one, we think.—*Mercury*.

A Mengtzu correspondent of the *Courrier d'Haiphong* says that the bubonic plague is worse there this year than it has ever been before. The Chinese writer of the French consulate died after four days' illness. The number of deaths per day is estimated at thirty, although the population of the town is only 10,000. Every evening the Taotai has his troops drawn up in the court-yard of the yamen to fire their rifles in all directions to frighten the plague demons.

Sir Auckland Colvin will become Chairman of the Rothschild Syndicate for leasing the Burma State Railways. The probable capital of the Company is eight millions sterling. We understand the Company will concentrate their energies in the first place on the construction of the Mandalay-Kunlon line, which is already well in hand. It remains to be seen whether the project for the Hukong Valley line, linking Upper Burma with Assam, will come to the front or be held over for a few years.—*Rangoon Gazette*.

The *N. C. Daily News* of the 14th August says:—Quite a flutter of excitement was created on Monday amongst the innumerable native postal agency men who occupy nearly the whole portion of Kinkiang Road between the Shan-tung and Fukien Roads, by the arrival of a circular from the Commissioner of Customs, as Imperial Government Postmaster of this port, calling upon each postal company to send in to him the names of the agencies, and to give him the average number of letters received by each company for transmission or delivery, and to give a list of various towns in the interior with which they are connected. Although the Imperial decree sanctioning the Imperial Post is well known to the private agencies in this port, they still appeared to be taken by surprise and a meeting was held yesterday in the Postal Guild to discuss the situation.

The *N. C. Daily News* says:—It has been already mentioned in these columns that the French idea is that British influence in the valley of the Yangtze should terminate westward at Ichang, and that Szechuen, the richest province in China, should be considered as within the French sphere of influence. It was with this view that the French have sent a man of the calibre of M. Haas to Chungking as Consul, while Great Britain is represented by a junior, who carries no weight with the officials, and is unable, if he were anxious, to do anything to push British enterprise. We now hear that Frenchmen, energetically backed by Mr. Haas, will probably force the weary officials of Szechuen to give them concessions for working the petroleum and salt springs, besides probably the gold and other mines with which the western provinces of China abound, and they will probably get any contracts for machinery which the Viceroy has to give out. It is ominous that, as we are now informed, the officials at Chungking have withdrawn from all the contracts they had previously practically settled with British and American agents.

THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK MEETING.

The half-yearly meeting of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank is always looked forward to as an occasion of interest, not only by the shareholders in that prosperous institution, but also by the commercial public, who are so largely dependent upon the Bank for financial facilities. As Mr. GILLIES aptly put it in seconding the adoption of the report, credit is the life-breath of industry, and in this colony that life-breath comes in great part from the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. And, fortunately, the Bank is in a position to extend credit liberally, for although the reduction in the rates of interest on deposits has caused some diminution both in gold and silver deposits, the Bank still has to complain of having too much money rather than too little for its requirements. From the depositor's point of view cheapness of money may be the reverse of satisfactory, but it means extension of trade and industry, though the margin of profit in many cases has a tendency to contract in sympathy with the decline in the rate of interest. That the latter will before long show a further decline there can, we think, be little doubt, for, as Mr. McCONACHIE, the Chairman, said at Saturday's meeting, the tendency of a long continuance of very cheap money in Europe will be to turn attention to other fields. "China and Japan have been brought very prominently before the world in late years, and the consequence is that the profitable seclusion we formerly enjoyed is being sadly interfered with." The phrase "profitable seclusion" is a neat one; it expresses a state of things that is passing away, and which is no doubt regretted by many others as well as the Bank. Competition in all departments of business promises to become keener and keener with consequent diminution of profits. Mr. McCONACHIE, however, is of opinion that the Bank will hold its own no matter what competition may come its way, and it is in the same spirit that others must face the changing circumstances, under which they will have to work against strong opposition instead of enjoying semi-monopolies in "profitable seclusion." But interference with the "profitable seclusion" formerly enjoyed by the China merchants has been going on ever since the Suez Canal and the telegraph cables revolutionised the conditions of trade; the process seems at present to be receiving a fresh impetus, but the process itself is not new, nor is it a subject for regret from a public point of view, notwithstanding that many particular interests may be adversely affected. Fewer fortunes are made now than formerly, but for the community as a whole life in the Far East, and especially in such centres as Hongkong and Shanghai, has become better worth living than it used to be; and as the present is superior to the past we have no doubt the future will be superior to the present, notwithstanding the continued loss of our profitable seclusion.

THE INCREASE IN CABLE RATES.

The vigorous protest made by the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce against the increase in the charges for cable messages is fully justified by the circumstances of the case and will be heartily endorsed by the public. Cheap telegraphy is one of the great desiderata of modern commerce and a sudden increase of 37½ per cent. in the rates, made without any sufficient reason, is a

gross imposition. When the Chinese Telegraph Administration fixed \$2 a word as their rate for messages to Europe the Cable Companies took messages at the same rate, abandoning the charge for difference in exchange which they had formerly made, and on that basis they have continued to show handsome earnings and have paid handsome dividends. Now, however, the competition of the Chinese lines has been reduced by a readjustment of the rate of exchange at which it has to pay for the transmission of telegrams beyond its own system, and the Cable Companies have promptly taken advantage of the situation to once more raise their rates, giving as their excuse for doing so, not the true reason, namely, the "cornering" of the Chinese telegraphs, but the fictitious reason of the continued depreciation of silver. As the Chamber of Commerce forcibly points out, the price of silver, so far from having declined, has advanced from 1/11½ r.t. in February, 1895, to 2/2½ at the present moment, a rise of some 14 per cent. Moreover, the depreciation of silver in 1895 did not prevent the Companies from reducing the telegraphic rate to Europe from \$2.30 to \$2.00 per word. The depreciation of silver must therefore be set down as a contemptible subterfuge. The Companies enjoy practically a monopoly, and they are evidently determined to squeeze all they can out of it. The prospect of their reconsidering their action will, we fear, be a remote one, until they are assailed by competition from some new quarter. The foreign mercantile communities of the Far East are, unfortunately, helpless in the matter, but it is possible that in the course of a few years action may be taken by the Japanese Government that will afford some relief. When the Pacific cable from America to Australia becomes an accomplished fact Japan will no doubt establish connection with it via Hawaii. The exorbitant charges for telegrams to Europe and America now imposed must constitute an appreciable handicap to Japan's commercial and industrial development and the Mikado's Government will be compelled to take what steps it can to secure for Japanese trade the benefits of telegraphic facilities at reasonable rates; and in those benefits foreign merchants in China and Japan would share. It is rather humiliating that in a British colony we should have to look to a foreign Government for relief against an oppressive monopoly in which a great British Company is the chief partner; but that Company unfortunately does not seem to realize that its monopoly carries with it corresponding responsibilities. The result of its shortsighted policy must inevitably be to invite opposition, and the opposition, when it comes, will be a strong one.

THE DIFFERENTIAL TARIFF IN INDO-CHINA AND FRENCH TRADE.

The differential tariff established in Indo-China appears now to be producing the effect for which it was intended, namely, that of encouraging French trade and keeping out foreign goods. For a long time the only effect was to cripple trade in general, French manufacturers being unable until recently to compete with foreign goods notwithstanding the advantages afforded them by the tariff, and the only immediate result was to cause a large decline in imports, the high duties charged rendering foreign piece goods too expensive for native consumption on the same scale as formerly. Gradually, however, the French manufac-

turers have begun to realise and take advantage of their opportunities and are now establishing a considerable trade. According to official figures, which we reproduce in another column from a Saigon contemporary, the French share in the trade of that port during the first four months of this year was 64 per cent. as against only 21 per cent. in the corresponding four months of 1895. France is now sending out piece goods in large quantities and in unbleached goods in particular seems to be altogether ousting the foreign article. All this is no doubt highly satisfactory from the French manufacturers' point of view, but the unfortunate natives of Cochin-China are heavily and most unjustly mulcted in order to bring about such a state of affairs: either they must go without foreign goods which they were formerly in the habit of using or they must pay an exorbitant price for them. The British Consul at Saigon in his report for last year says—"The tariff established in 1887 has never ceased to cause complaints by local merchants; it is stated that in eight years imports have fallen from f. 120,000,000 to f. 37,000,000, and that the number of 'patentes' in Saigon and Cholon have diminished fifty per cent." Such is the price that has to be paid for the fostering of French trade. The high duties are not imposed, as in protectionist countries, in the interests of local industry, but are simply a form of levying tribute on the natives for the benefit of manufacturers in France. Our French friends regard with extreme jealousy England's colonising energy and say we "want the earth." To that we can only reply that it would be a very good thing for all parties, from a commercial point of view, if we had what we are accused of wanting, for then there would be no restrictions on trade; whereas France's avowed object in colonising is to oust foreign trade, and in particular British trade, no matter whether she can establish trade of her own or not.

CRIME AND PUNISHMENT.

A thoughtful and well reasoned article on crime and punishment is contributed by Mr. H. B. SIMPSON to the last number of the *Contemporary Review*. The problem of how to deal with criminals has engaged much attention in Hongkong, and although the local conditions are so widely different from those prevailing in England Mr. SIMPSON's conclusions are in principle equally or even more applicable here than they are at home. The first portion of the article is devoted to a refutation of the fanciful theories of the Lombroso school. It is not, says Mr. SIMPSON, moral monsters or degenerates that English legislators and administrators have to consider, but men whose passions are a little stronger, whose wills are a little weaker than those of their respectable fellow-citizens; men who would have been respectable citizens themselves if it had been a little easier for them; who are criminals, not because they have been guided at the start by directly criminal tendencies or any anti-social instincts, but simply because they have yielded too often or too readily to motives which all of us confess and most of us have at times yielded to. Born criminals there are, but they are comparatively rare, and it is not with reference to them that the general treatment of criminals must be determined. "Punishment, it seems," says Mr. SIMPSON, "can prevent crime by deterring, by reforming, or by coercing the offender, by deterring others, or, lastly, as we have

above suggested, by fostering a detestation of the offence. The current tendency appears to attach most importance to the reformation of the criminal as a means of preventing crime. To the writer it seems that this is, in fact, the least important means of any, for the reason that it is the means which the State is the least likely to employ with success, and which, if it attempts to employ consistently, is likely to detract most from the efficiency of the other methods at its disposal. The reformatory system would be the most desirable if the State could reform a considerable proportion of its prisoners, but its ability to do this is disputed by Mr. SIMPSON, who argues that the conduct of prisoners when under surveillance cannot be accepted as evidence of the success of the system, and that the evidence afforded by the Elmira Penitentiary in the State of New York is altogether of a negative character. "The Elmira system, with its lectures and discussions, its Turkish baths, massage, and gymnastics for prisoners, its reading clubs, its daily newspaper, its careful avoidance of everything that may hurt a sensitive prisoner's feelings, or remind him that he has done anything to be ashamed of, must inevitably tend to diminish, on the one hand, the deterrent effect of legal penalties, and on the other hand to encourage hypocrisy, self-deceit, and a very disagreeable kind of priggishness among the criminals. It is stated that an inmate of Elmira has proposed with becoming seriousness at one of the periodical debates that the warders should receive the punishments their prisoners incur, so as to work on the latter through their sympathies rather than through their fears. One suspects that there was more of the way than of the prig about the man who made the proposal, but there seems to have been a sufficient lack of humour among his audience to allow of its being accepted as a genuine contribution to the discussion of the best way of managing a prison." The coercive element, it is contended, is the most certain means of attaining the end desired, the diminution of crime; and by coercion is meant coercing a man to refrain from crime by keeping him locked up when he has proved himself an habitual criminal. In Hongkong coercion is applied, so far as the colony itself is concerned, not only by imprisonment, but by a system of banishment, which has had most excellent results, though it turns the criminals over to another State, where they may continue their depredations until they fall into the hands of their own authorities. We have, happily, not of late years heard much of sentimental schemes of dealing with Chinese criminals, except that the kindly Dr. MARQUES, who recently retired from the appointment of Medical Officer of the Gaol, seems to have had an idea that the prisoners would mostly be honest if they were afforded an opportunity of working for their living, and he suggested that they might be sent to the Borneo plantations. Borneo, however, would not welcome an importation of the criminal classes, and amongst our Hongkong criminals there are very few who have really been driven to crime by want of honest employment. They choose a career of crime simply because they prefer to live by stealing than by working, and any attempt at reformatory treatment would yield very meagre results and would afford practically no protection to the public. The only way to deal with the habitual criminal is to keep him in gaol for long terms or to banish him from the colony; but, as pre-

vention is better than cure, it is chiefly to the efficiency of our police force that we must look for the protection of the colony against burglaries and all crimes of violence.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND THE WATER SUPPLY.

In considering the limitations imposed upon the industrial development of Hongkong by the scarcity of water it should not be forgotten that various small sources of supply may be found outside those used for the city of Victoria. When Hon. F. A. COOPER in his recent report on the waterworks spoke of providing a supply for "a population of 266,000 persons, or the estimated population in 1910" he was speaking only of the city. The village of Shauiwan has now excellent waterworks, only recently completed; the Quarry Bay supply is also independent of the city supply; and if Causeway Bay, which is likewise outside the city limits, were built over, probably a separate supply would be found for it too. The establishment of factories along the Shauiwan Road, in which a commencement has already been made in a small way, may therefore be continued to some extent. It would appear, however, that Mr. COOPER does not attach very much importance to the new sources of supply that may be tapped in that direction, for when deprecating the allowance of a high rate of increase in the population of the city, owing to the limited area of the latter and its present overcrowded condition, he suggests that the increase should "to a large extent" be confined to Kowloon, and makes no mention of any possible outlet on the island itself. The hon. gentleman, however, probably did not intend to exclude the idea of an extension of the population in the direction of Causeway Bay and Shauiwan, where small local water supplies might be utilised. The quantity obtainable in that direction, however, must necessarily be limited. There is no possibility of establishing another Taitam or Pokfulam, and as manufacturers will not set up factories unless they can be assured of an ample water supply the whole year round the prospects of the island of Hongkong becoming a great manufacturing centre are not bright. When the extension of the Kowloon boundary takes place, however, we believe there will be no difficulty about an ample water supply on that side, and no doubt a manufacturing town will in course of time come into existence there.

SHADE TREES ON THE PRAYA RECLAMATION.

Some surprise has been expressed that shade trees have not already been planted on the completed portion of the Praya Reclamation. Considerations of health and comfort alike require that this step should be taken, for at present to reach New Pedder's Wharf in the heat of the day is almost as bad as passing through a furnace, the glare and the radiation of heat from the concreted surface of the road being intense. When the ground is built over there will be some shade from the houses, but in wide streets, such as those on the Reclamation, trees are proportionately more necessary than in narrow streets like Queen's Road. Objection to them is sometimes raised on

account of the roots interfering with the drains, for wherever a bad joint is to be found the roots insinuate themselves; but the objection is not a fatal one, for it can be met on the one hand by good workmanship in the laying of the drains, and on the other hand, if repairs to the drains are occasionally rendered necessary by the spreading of the roots the price is a small one to pay for the great boon which shade trees prove in a tropical town.

THE LOSS OF THE "ILLIS."

AN IMPRESSIVE SCENE ON DECK.

We are indebted to the German Consulate for the following particulars of the loss of the ill-fated *Illis*:

The gunboat *Illis* left Chefoo on the 23rd July, at 4 a.m. Barometer rising and wind East, force 2. On the preceding days there had been light east winds and sea calm, and the barometer was regular. The sky was clouded on the 23rd and there was a little rain. Wei-haiwei was passed under steam and sail about noon, and at 5 p.m. the N.E. point of the Shantung peninsula was rounded. The wind had gradually freshened and came now from S.E., force 7, so that the storm sails had to be set. From here the gunboat shaped its course in a parallel line to the coast and within sight of land. The watch below had, as is usual at sea, received hammocks at 8 p.m., and was called on deck at 10 p.m. to take in the sails, being assisted by the watch on deck. The watch below then went to bed. The ship laboured hard in a rough sea, but not more than under previous similar circumstances. The *Illis* had always proved to be a good sea-going ship. This was shown about a year ago during a voyage from Kobe to Shanghai, when the weather was very stormy. In the present instance rain fell in torrents from time to time and the wind had increased in force, but the engines worked well. In the morning they attained a speed of seven nautical miles. Towards 10 p.m. after the sails had been taken in, engines were put to slow. About half an hour after this there was a sudden violent shock. The ship had struck a rock and was set fast. Nobody knew anything of the dangerous proximity of land, as the night was very dark. The ship leaked; the engine rooms and the stoke-hole were soon full of water. The watch on duty got on deck in smart time; the watch below also rushed immediately to their respective stations. The ship had been driven by a strong current running to N.W. on the small reef which rises above the sea a little to the south of what is marked on the chart as "Flat Rocky Point" of the Sang-kan Bay, about nine nautical miles north of the lighthouse on the S.E. corner of the Shantung peninsula. The huge breakers threw the ship continually against the sharp edges of the rock and thus weakened the vessel. The greater part of the crew stopped on the after part of the vessel. The Commander, Captain Lieutenant Braun, and officer on duty, Lieutenant Prasse, stood on the bridge. Rockets and other signals were fired to attract attention from the shore and to obtain assistance, but no human aid was possible at that time, as the sea washed over the deck, and very soon the ship began to break up. At the moment of the greatest danger the Commander mustered the crew on deck, and told them they were doomed to die. The officers and men thereupon raised three hurrahs for His Majesty the Emperor, in order to quit life with the name on their lips. Thus these brave seamen proved their loyalty with their last breath to the flag under which they had served. The ship broke in two, the stokers' room being separated in the fore part. The masts fell overboard and destroyed the bridge and the remainder of the railing. Most of the men had remained together with the officers, on the after part of the ship, when the chief gunner's mate Raehm commenced singing the song "To the flag, black, white, red," and every one joined in the chorus. The last verse of the song is as follows:

Uns treibt des wilden Sturms Gewalt
 Uns an ein Felsenriff,
 Gleichviel in welcherlei Gestalt
 Gefahr droht unserm Schiff
 Wir wanken und wir weichen nicht,
 Wir thun nach Seemannsbrauch,
 Getreu erfüll'n wir unsere Pflicht,
 Auch bis zum letzten Hauch,
 Und rufen freudig sterbend aus,
 Getreu bis in den Tod:
 Der Kaiser und die Flagge hoch,
 Die Flagge schwarz, weiss, roth!

The song rang out loudly in the howling storm. The after part of the ship then began to quiver and fell over, dragging with it everything into the depths. Only two men were washed away by the sea and they reached the coast after a long swim. The fore part of the ship had now fallen to the side, its bottom receiving the force of the breakers, thus affording protection against the sea to the men who had remained there. The next day, the 24th, an attempt was made to build a raft, and one of the sailors was washed away, but happily he reached the shore. The remainder had to wait thirty-six hours without food. Then a Chinese sampan came to the rescue and took the men away, the boatman himself risking his life. The sea now abated somewhat. The inhabitants of the village Chue-tan, which was close by, received the shipwrecked sailors very humanely, and provided them with clothing, food, and drink. An English missionary dressed the wounds of the men who were injured. From the lighthouse at the south-east of Shantung came the keeper, a German named Schwilp, and he took his fellow countrymen on donkeys back to the lighthouse. From here a Chinese messenger went overland to take the first news about the disaster to the German men-of-war at Chefoo. The messenger arrived in the forenoon of the 26th at Chefoo and the news created profound sensation, and much sympathy was expressed by everyone. H.M.'s ships *Arcona* and *Cormoran* went immediately to the scene of the disaster and took the survivors on board. They had been cared for in a most friendly manner by Mr. Schwilp. H.M. ship *Arcona* remained at the spot. The remains of the victims were interred at a special cemetery near the lighthouse.

THE FORMOSAN REBELLION.

We have received the following telegrams, apparently from Japanese official sources:—
 AMOY, 12th August.

As the rebels of Funlin and other districts during the recent insurrection damaged the buildings and properties of innocent people, and also slaughtered some of them, the Central Government of Taiwan have begun an inspection and examination with a view to relieve the unfortunate sufferers. Baron Tatimi, Chief of the military department, who went to the prefecture of Taichong, having inspected the districts that suffered at the hands of the rebels, will return to-morrow.

TAIPEH, 14th August.

The Imperial Japanese Government has decided to grant 50,000 yen for the relief of the innocent sufferers through the late disturbances.

SUPREME COURT.

13th August.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR DR. CARRINGTON
 (CHIEF JUSTICE.)

RE LEONG NIN, DECEASED, EX PARTE
 LO CHEE KU.

This was a creditor's petition for administration in bankruptcy of the estate of Leong Nin, deceased, formerly carrying on the business of a money changer under the name of Yee Loong at No. 125, Queen's Road Central.

Mr. Bowley (of Mr. H. L. Denny's office) appeared for the petitioning creditor and the executor of the deceased, Leong Mun Lum, appeared in person. The liabilities were stated to amount to about \$37,000 and the realisable assets to about \$6,000, consisting of monies in the hands of the mortgagees and executor's respective

solicitors (Mr. Ewens and Mr. Ho Wyson). The insolvency is attributed to the disappearance of the manager of the Yee Loong, who absconded with large sums of money.

His Lordship made the order prayed for and appointed Mr. Arathoon Seth, Official Receiver, the trustee in the bankruptcy.

17th August.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR DR. CARRINGTON
 (CHIEF JUSTICE.)

HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY
 CO., LIMITED, v. W. G. BRODIE
 AND OTHERS.

In this case the plaintiffs applied for a final decree of foreclosure against the defendants, W. G. Brodie, H. L. Dalrymple, and B. Layton. Mr. Francis, Q.C. (instructed by Mr. V. H. Deacon) appeared for the plaintiffs and said there was no appearance on the part of the defendants. Counsel then read the formal documents in the case and asked for a final decree of foreclosure against the defendants. His Lordship granted the decree.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on the 13th August at the offices. Hon. F. A. Cooper presided, and there were also present—Dr. Ayres (Colonial Surgeon), Dr. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), Mr. H. B. Lethbridge (Acting Captain Superintendent of Police), Mr. N. J. Ede, and Mr. H. McCallum (Secretary.)

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

BAKE-HOUSE BY-LAWS.

The revised bake-house by-laws were read and approved, and it was resolved to forward them to the Colonial Secretary.

CLEANSING AND LIMEWASHING PREMISES.

An amendment was made in the by-law regulating the times at which premises shall be cleansed and limewashed. The new by-law was ordered to be sent to the Colonial Secretary.

CHOLERA AT PENANG.

The Colonial Secretary at Singapore forwarded a return of cholera cases which occurred in Province Wellesley, Penang, during the week ended 14th July last. There were five cases, and four of the patients died.

THE PLAGUE WORK OF THE SANITARY INSPECTORS.

The Inspectors of Nuisances forwarded an application to the Medical Officer of Health asking for a special remuneration for services rendered during the plague this year. The Colonial Secretary, to whom the application was forwarded, replied regretting that his Excellency the Governor could not accede to the request.

CLEAN BILLS OF HEALTH.

The following letter was read concerning the issuing of clean bills of health:—

1st August, 1896.

My dear McCallum,—If I remember rightly, the Board in answer to an inquiry from his Excellency stated that the plague was then present in the colony in an epidemic form. Am I correct? If so, I think we could now fairly address the Government and say that the disease is now no longer epidemic, and if the notification on the subject that was then made be now recalled, I presume it would follow that the Health Officer of the Port would give clean bills of health to ships leaving this. Will you submit this matter to the President and the other members of the Board?—Yours truly,

N. J. EDE.

H. McCallum, Esq.

The following minutes were appended.—

The Secretary—Submitted. I am of opinion that bubonic plague has not existed to the extent of being epidemic for the past two months. During the past eight weeks we have had 130 cases reported, or say 2½ cases a day. These have occurred all over the colony and can only be viewed as being sporadic cases. To my mind, foul bills of health should not be issued under such circumstances.

The President—Please circulate. There has to my knowledge been no official notification that the plague has been epidemic in Hongkong this year. Whether the Colonial Surgeon can give a clean bill of health depends. I should think, on the wording of the form and law under which it is issued.

The Medical Officer of Health—There can be no question that the port is at present free from any epidemic of infectious or contagious disease.

The Colonial Surgeon—I have already advised the Government on this subject.

Mr. EDE moved that a letter be sent to the Colonial Secretary stating that in the opinion of the Board there was no epidemic of contagious or infectious disease in the colony.

The COLONIAL SURGEON seconded.

Carried.

WHO IS TO PAY?

The Secretary, in a letter to the Colonial Secretary, stated that on the 20th of last month 42 dead swine were found on board the steamship *Hongkong* on her arrival in the harbour from Hoihow. On the 24th 21 dead swine were found on board the steamship *Ask* on her arrival from Hoihow. All the carcasses were detained for inspection, and they were afterwards ordered by the Medical Officer of Health, in the interests of the public health, to be buried at the ground set apart for the purpose at Mount Caroline. The total cost of the removal was \$50.80 and the question was whether the money could be recovered from the owners of the vessels or their agents.

The Colonial Secretary forwarded the letter to the Crown Solicitor, who wrote stating that in his opinion the money could not be recovered from the owners or agents.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

For the week ended 1st August the death rate was 17 per 1,000 per annum as compared with 50.1 for the corresponding period of last year. For the week ended 8th August the death rate was 21.5 as compared with 25 for the corresponding period of last year.

The following minute was appended to the latter statistics—

Medical Officer of Health—Eleven deaths from drowning are recorded as having occurred at Kowloon, presumably as a result of the typhoon.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Board adjourned until Thursday week.

THE "GAELIC" ASHORE.

SAFETY OF THE PASSENGERS.

15th August.

Yesterday morning Mr. J. S. Van Buren, Agent for the Occidental and Oriental Steamship Company, received a telegram dated Yokohama, 9 p.m., August 13th, stating that the *Gaelic* had gone ashore at Yodasibi beacon, Shimonoseki. The translation of the telegram is as follows.—"Gaelic steamer got ashore at Yodasibi beacon, Shimonoseki. Steamer is afloat again; beached; rests on mud safely. Steam pump ordered from Nagasaki. We will telegraph you latter."

A second telegram, dated Yokohama, 3:17 p.m., August 14th, reached Mr. Van Buren shortly before 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon. The following translation was supplied to us by the agent:—

"Damage to *Gaelic* is confined to Nos. 2 and 3 holds starboard bilge. Twelve feet of water in those holds. The steamer will have to be docked. Sugar jettisoned. Landing forward cargo. Cabin passengers, mails, due Kobe August 15th. Chinese passengers remain by the ship. Will wire extent of damages as soon as received from diver."

The *Gaelic* left Hongkong at 5 p.m. on the 8th inst. She reached Nagasaki on the afternoon of the 12th and it is most probable she struck the rock about six o'clock on the morning of the 13th. The steamer was in charge of the pilot, Captain Wilson Walker, at the time and it is considered that she got out of her course in trying to avoid junks. The straits are only a third of a mile wide at the point where the accident occurred.

The following is a list of the passengers who booked at Hongkong for ports beyond Nagasaki:—For Kobe—Lieutenant and Mrs.

Mathews. For Yokohama—Dr. and Mrs. Bateson Wright, Major Halton, and Mr. Chas. Leichtenfelder. For San Francisco—Miss Belle Smith, Miss M. Hennessey, Messrs. A. Chamberlain and C. H. Mitchell. For London—Dr. and Mrs. Lowson.

17th August.

On Saturday morning Mr. J. S. Van Buren, received the following telegram from Yokohama:—"Gaelic dry; leak stopped. Fracture between second and third watertight bulkheads. Will send further particulars as soon as received."

In the afternoon Mr. Van Buren received a second telegram:—"The Gaelic left Shimonseki to-day for Nagasaki."

18th August.

The steamer *Gaelic*, recently ashore in Shimonseki Straits, arrived at Nagasaki on the morning of the 16th instant.

A BRITISH SAILING SHIP BURNT AT SEA.

REMARKABLE ADVENTURES OF THE CREW.

On Saturday morning the British steamship *Esmeralda* arrived from Manila, bringing ten of the crew of the British ship *Flora P. Stafford*, which was totally burnt at sea whilst on a voyage from Newcastle, New South Wales, to Manila with a cargo of coal. The *Flora P. Stafford* (Captain Oscar Smith) was a Nova Scotian fully rigged ship of 1,250 tons, official number 85,443, and she left Newcastle on the 22nd April with a crew of seventeen. Nothing unusual happened until six o'clock on the morning of the 6th June when a fire was discovered to have broken out in the 'tween decks. The ship was then about 224 miles off land to the eastward of the Philippine Islands. The whole of the crew at once set to work to conquer the fire. Water was poured into the forward hatch in order to check the progress of the flames, but a sudden bursting out of fire in one of the other hatches plainly showed that the efforts of the crew would do little towards saving the ship. She was evidently doomed to total destruction, and the captain gave orders for the three boats to be provisioned. First of all the largest boat was lowered astern and provisioned, and the boatswain and the seamen were towed in her until the 8th. On that day it was seen that the fire had got such a hold of the vessel that further clinging to her would only involve the danger of being burnt to death. It was therefore resolved to abandon the ship. Two other boats were lowered and provisioned. Five men joined the couple in the large boat, the captain and five seamen got into the second boat, and the first mate and three seamen manned the third. The ship was seen to burn to the water's edge and when she was finally left darkness was coming on. The three boats kept company until the following day, when a heavy squall separated them and they lost sight of each other. The boat in which the first mate and the three seamen were was never seen again, and it is feared the men have lost their lives. Of the other two boats that in which the captain was had the best of instruments. They had a good compass and a chart, while the boatswain's boat was possessed of only a broken compass minus the glass cover, which was practically useless, and consequently bearings were principally taken by the stars. Thirty-four days elapsed before the boatswain and his men sighted land. During that long weary voyage they had some remarkable adventures, and it is indeed a wonder that they are now alive. They themselves never expected to survive. They had to rig up masts and sails of the rudest description. The foremast was an upright of a ladder and the sail a piece of tarpaulin; the mainmast was an oar and the sail a blanket. There was no rudder on the boat and steering had to be accomplished with an oar. The food was poor and scarce. The water was unwholesome; most of it was kept in a salt beef barrel and the remainder in a soap barrel. One of the survivors said the water tasted like tar and looked like tar and was almost as thick as tar. The food had to be doled out very sparingly indeed, and one of the mouths to be filled was a dog's, and he came in for his share of food as regularly as the men themselves. To these

miseries was added the repeated shipping of water, and the little craft had to be continually baled out. Then, again, the men were soaked to the skin the day after they left the ship, and they hadn't a dry stitch on them during the whole of the thirty-four days, and the consequence of this drenching was that one of the men lies ill in Manila, while another, who fell overboard and was hauled in again with considerable difficulty, is at the Sailors' Home suffering from rheumatics. The boat at length reached the island of Mindanao, of the Philippines group, and here in exchange for some old clothing the men obtained food from the natives. From that place they went to Surigao with some natives, but before reaching this spot they had to charge canoes no fewer than eleven times, and they obtained food mostly by disposing of a few of their effects. At Surigao they saw the Governor, who kindly gave them some money to buy a few necessities and then despatched them to Manila, where they arrived in a steamer on the 3rd August. Here they met the captain and three of his men, who had arrived only two hours before in another steamship and who had also had some exciting adventures. At one island two of the captain's crew deserted from the boat and they, like the boatswain and his men, have not since been heard of. The captain interviewed the British Consul at Manila and the ten men were sent on to Hongkong by the *Esmeralda*, the captain deciding to remain behind for a while.

THE HONGKONG HOTEL CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report of the Directors to be presented at the ordinary meeting of shareholders, to be held at the Company's Hotel, at noon on Friday next:—

In accordance with Section 53 of the Articles of Association, the Directors have now to submit to the Shareholders their half-yearly Report for the six months ending 30th June, 1896.

ACCOUNTS.

The profit on Working Account amounted for the six months to \$35,489.52, as compared with \$19,211.05 for the corresponding period of 1895, being an increase of \$16,278.47.

The Profit and Loss Account, including a credit balance of \$8,175.38 brought forward from 31st December, 1895, shows a credit balance of \$22,024.45 (after writing off \$5,000 from Furniture Account—as recommended in last Report—and paying \$4,574.96 for much needed repairs to Buildings, &c.) as compared with \$3,668.38 at credit of the Account on the 30th June, 1895, and \$2,765.31 at credit on 30th June, 1894.

It is satisfactory to note that it has been necessary to write off only \$256.49 for bad debts and refunds; a very small sum compared with the heavy losses from this cause in the past.

The Directors propose to deal with the profit of \$22,024.45 by writing \$22,000 off the Furniture Account and carrying \$24.45 forward.

The Board are of opinion that the book value of the furniture stands at present at much too high a figure, viz., \$32,948.14, which is due to insufficient sums having been written off in the past. During the last six years the average book value of the furniture has been about \$75,000, and only the sum of \$15,600 has been written off during that period, including \$5,000 debited to Profit and Loss in the Accounts now being put before you. The Directors consider that quite 10 per cent. should be yearly written off furniture subject to such excessive wear and tear as that in the Hongkong Hotel. Had circumstances permitted this being done for the last six years on the average book value, the sum absorbed would have been \$45,000, or upwards of \$29,400 more than the amount which has actually been put aside for furniture depreciation during that period.

In the face of this the Directors consider that it is no more than prudent to dispose of the surplus appearing in the accounts in the way they have suggested.

STAFF.

Mr. A. Fonseca resigned the post of Manager on the 30th June last. The vacancy will be filled at an early date.

Mr. C. Mooney was appointed Secretary on the 1st May last.

DIRECTORS.

Messrs. W. Parfitt and E. Osborne retire by rotation, but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDIT.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs W. H. Potts and W. H. Gaskell, who are recommended for re-election.

W. PARFITT, Chairman.
Hongkong, 14th August, 1896.

BALANCE SHEET, 30TH JUNE, 1896.

ASSETS.		\$	c.
Hotel Property—			
Marine Lot No. 5, and remaining portion of Marine Lot No. 3	412,523.04		
Remaining portion of Marine Lot No. 7	408,157.26		
Praya reclamation, as per last report	\$12,543.17		
Since paid	5,493.25		
	18,036.42		
		838,716.72	
Furniture account—			
As per last report	\$85,628.07		
Less written off as recommended in last report	5,000.00		
	\$80,628.07		
Less sale of a billiard table	250.00		
	\$80,378.07		
Since added	2,570.07		
		82,948.14	
Stock of wines and provisions		15,309.88	
Steam launch		2,500.00	
Cash		229.09	
Shares in public companies		7,019.19	
Licences attaching to latter half of 1896		265.00	
Fire insurance to latter half of 1896		1,101.00	
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation		28,100.44	
Accounts receivable		10,400.19	
		\$986,580.65	
LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
Capital—			
8,879 shares at \$50 each (fully paid up)	443,950.00		
Mortgage to Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Limited	500,000.00		
Sundry creditors	20,615.20		
Profit and loss account	22,024.45		
		\$986,580.65	

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1896.

Dr.		\$	c.
To Crown rent	365.90		
To directors' and auditors' fees	1,650.00		
To rates and taxes	2,564.26		
To fire insurance	1,102.15		
To repairs and renewals	4,574.96		
To interest account	16,546.23		
To legal expenses	78.85		
To furniture account (written off as recommended in last report)	5,000.00		
To bad debts and refunds attaching to year 1895	256.49		
To balance	22,024.45		
		\$54,163.34	
Cr.		\$	c.
By balance from 31st December, 1895	8,175.38		
By rents of shops and offices	10,182.00		
By dividends on shares	336.44		
By profit on hotel working account for six months ending 30th June, 1896	35,489.52		
		\$54,163.34	

THE HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report of the Board of Directors of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Limited, to the ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders, to be held at the offices of the Company, No. 14, Praya, on Monday, the 24th August, at 3 o'clock p.m.:—

To the Shareholders of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Limited.

Gentlemen,—The Directors have now to submit to you their report, with a statement of accounts for the half-year ended 30th June last.

The total receipts for the 6 months are \$1,480,075.23, and the net profit, after paying interest due and all charges, amounts to \$59,073.12 to which has to be added the balance brought forward from last account..... 54,474.30

\$623,547.42

and from this have to be deducted—
Directors' fees \$7,000
Auditors' fees 500
..... 7,500.00

leaving available for appropriation \$616,047.42

The Directors recommend that a dividend for the half year of 8 per cent., or \$125,000.00, and a bonus of 4 per cent., or \$62,500.00, equalling together \$187,500.00, be paid to the shareholders, a bonus of \$20,000.00 to contributing shareholders, that \$24,602.31 be written from the value of Kowloon Docks, \$25,489.98 from Cosmopolitan Dock, and \$1,486.00 from the value of steam launches and lighter, that \$200,000.00 be passed to reserve fund.

and the balance \$150,969.13 be carried to new account.

During the last two years there has been a marked increase in the regular business of the Company; to meet this augmentation in business our resources have been taxed to the utmost limit, and a vast amount of night work has been necessary. With a view to relieve this pressure of work and to meet the increasing wants of our constituents, the Directors have under consideration certain schemes for adding largely to the facilities of our Kowloon establishment.

The damage to the Company's property by the recent typhoon has not been serious, neither has the work in hand been interrupted to any appreciable extent.

The Aberdeen Docks have been well employed during the last half year, and the returns from that establishment may be considered very satisfactory.

J. KRAMER,
Chairman.

CAPITAL ACCOUNT, JANUARY TO JUNE, 1896.			
30th June, 1896.	ASSETS.	\$	c.
Aberdeen.			
To value of Aberdeen Docks, as per last statement		100,000.00	
Kowloon.			
To value of Kowloon Docks, as per last statement		1,030,884.06	
Amount paid on account of 16 new houses		20,651.25	
Amount paid for various extensions, and plant added during 6 months		23,067.00	
		1,074,602.31	
Cosmopolitan Dock.			
To value of Cosmopolitan Dock, as per last statement		267,219.46	
Amount paid balance of cost of new European quarters		1,400.00	
Amount paid for building stone retaining wall		200.00	
Amount paid on account of new sea wall and extension		2,500.00	
Value of plant added last six months		4,170.52	
		275,489.98	
Tug, Launches, and Lighters.			
To value of <i>Fome</i> as per last account		15,000.00	
To value of 12 steam launches, 1 steam lighter, and boats		31,486.00	
To fixed deposit with Hongkong and Shanghai Bank		200,000.00	
To 5 shares China Fire Insurance Company, Limited		169.00	
To sundry debtors		161,686.08	
To cost of material on hand		922,510.75	
		\$2,780,944.12	

30th June, 1896.	LIABILITIES.	\$	c.
By shareholders for 12,500 shares of \$125 each fully paid-up		1,562,500.00	
By reserve fund		200,000.00	
By Admiralty loan £20,000. 0.0			
Less repayment: 6,697.16.4			
		£13,302.3.8 @ 2 1/2	125,197.00

By Admiralty exchange adjustment at credit of this account		8,538.58	
By sundry creditors		261,161.12	
By balance of profit brought forward from last account		54,474.30	
By profit		569,073.12	
		623,547.42	
		\$2,780,944.12	

30th June, 1896.	REVENUE ACCOUNT.	\$	c.
To cost of labour, material, and working expenses at the Company's three establishments		883,201.36	
To interest		1,070.84	
To fire insurance		1,133.21	
To Crown rent		1,460.5	
To office expenses, salaries, stationery, and rent of head office		19,54.07	
To drawing office expenses and salaries		3,556.39	
To telegrams		427.50	
To legal expenses		297.50	
To profit		569,073.12	
		\$1,480,075.23	

1st Jan. to 30th June, 1896.	\$	c.
By gross earnings of the Company's three establishments	1,469,201.57	
By towage net earnings	9,289.06	
By transfer fees	228.00	
By bonus on premia, &c.	1,296.60	
	\$1,480,075.23	

The Osaka Shosen Kaisha has ordered two new screw steamers of 2,250 tons each from Clyde firms.

THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

HALF-YEARLY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS.

The ordinary half-yearly meeting of the shareholders of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation was held in the City Hall on Saturday, at noon. Mr. A. McConachie presided, and amongst those present were—Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, Messrs. St. C. Michaelsen, G. B. Dodwell, M. D. Ezekiel, J. Kramer, D. R. Sassoon, and N. A. Siebs (Directors); Thos. Jackson (Chief Manager); Hon. C. P. Chater, Hon. E. R. Belilios, Messrs. H. N. Mody, V. A. C. Hawkins, J. C. Peter, E. Georg, C. J. Gonsalves, S. Hancock, F. Henderson, D. D. Guzzard, J. A. Chinoy, D. Gillies, W. S. Bamsey, E. Ezekiel, H. Buck, E. J. Hughes, P. Sachse, C. S. Sharp, G. H. Potts, P. Jordan, G. Murray Bain, F. Dodwell, T. F. Hough, C. Palmer, G. C. Cox, H. M. Mehta, G. Stewart, E. S. Kelly, A. Coutts, W. H. Gaskell, P. Morris, A. Coxon, Ho Fook, Lau Wei Chuen.

Mr. T. JACKSON (Chief Manager) read the notice calling the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN, after reading the half yearly report of the Directors, said:—Gentlemen, the past half year was one of considerable interest to us. We took part in floating a large loan for the Chinese Government with very satisfactory results to all concerned. Three millions of said loan have still to be disposed of; they will be dealt with about September or October in the present year. The profit on these important operations will appear in future balance sheets. We recently reduced our holdings of Consols by £188,000, leaving £500,000 still on hand; but as the transaction was not completed by the 30th April, when our London Office ends their half year, the present accounts do not contain the adjusted entries. Our position will be as follows:—We will hold in all £500,000 of 2½ per cent. Consols written down to £95, after which there will be a profit on the amount realized of £25,582 16s. 3d. to be dealt with during the present half year. (Applause.) The two items in the accounts which show the greatest change are gold current accounts and cash. The increase in both is accounted for by the large amount of money we held in London belonging to the Chinese Government at the time the accounts were closed. Bills payable and bills receivable both show a falling off as compared with the last half year. The increasing amount of business done by telegraphic transfer accounts for the falling off in the bills payable. Bills receivable, although less than what they were on the 31st of December, are still largely in excess of previous half years. The reduction in the rate we pay for sterling deposits has caused a shrinkage of £344,120 4s. 1d. during the half year. Silver deposits also show a decrease during the six months of \$3,845,397.94. Still we have to complain of having too much money rather than too little for our requirements. Looking to the results we are able to place before you, if I tell you that times are very hard for Eastern banking you may be incredulous. Still they are, and I am sorry to say they are likely to become more so as time goes on. The tendency of a long continuance of very cheap money in Europe will be to turn attention to other fields. China and Japan have been brought very prominently before the world in late years, and the consequence is that the profitable seclusion we formerly enjoyed is being sadly interfered with. Still I am persuaded that we will hold our own no matter what competition may come our way. If we do not, we would be unworthy of the commanding position we at present enjoy. (Applause.) I hope all our friends will be pleased with the proposed division of profits. £1 5s. represents a return of a little over 18 per cent. to the shareholders. Two and a half lacs of dollars bring the reserve up to 60 lacs, while about 3 lacs are carried forward to profit and loss new account. I can, I am happy to say, repeat what my predecessors in the chair have said before, that the Bank is in a splendid position, and I feel sure you will agree with me when I say that we owe it largely to the zeal and ability which has characterised the management of our great institution. (Applause.) Before moving the adoption of the

report and passing of the accounts, I shall be glad to answer any questions shareholders may wish to ask.

No questions were asked.

The CHAIRMAN—As there seem to be no questions, I beg to propose the adoption of the report and the passing of the accounts.

Mr. D. GILLIES—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, as a shareholder I have listened with much interest and a very great amount of pleasure to the statement you have just now given us of the financial affairs of our bank. The information which you have conveyed to us of the profit from the loan lately made to the Chinese Government, likewise the profit realised on the sale of Consols, is in my opinion further proof of the safe and cautious policy followed by the Court of Directors in providing for every possible emergency. (Applause.) As such, I trust that their action in this matter will commend itself to the body of shareholders. From the report you will see that the business of our bank has been conducted with a very large amount of success. The returns probably are not quite so brilliant as those of former years, yet eighteen per cent. per annum on the net value of our shares is a dividend of which we can well be satisfied and which can hardly be approached by any other institution in the home country. For such excellent results, as our Chairman has just stated, we are largely indebted to the skill and ability of the manager. (Applause.) In modern times it has been said that credit is the life-breath of industry. Now, gentlemen, if you will look around this little colony you will see on every side evidences of what I have stated, and I am glad to say that this life-breath emanates in a very large measure from our prosperous institution. (Applause.) Possibly we do not always receive that share of credit that we would like to, but the careful and skilful physician who presides at the head of our affairs holds the scales of justice with equal poise, and I am certain that he distributes the breath of life, which gives credit to everyone, as far as he possibly can, and as far as their position in business merits. I trust, therefore, that he will be long spared to hold his present position. (Applause.) With these few remarks, gentlemen, I have pleasure in seconding the adoption of the report and statement of accounts for the past half year. (Applause.)

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business before us, gentlemen. I thank you for your attendance. Dividend warrants will be issued on Monday morning.

Mr. P. SACHSE—Before dispersing, I beg to propose a hearty vote of thanks to the Board of Directors, the Chief Manager, and the entire staff of the Bank for the extremely gratifying results which have been achieved by their combined efforts during the past half year. (Applause.) Let us hope that the balance sheet at the end of the current half year will be equally as good or even better, and let us also hope that the unique position which the Bank is now enjoying will be maintained for many years to come. (Applause.)

The Chairman—I thank you, Mr. Sachse, for my colleagues and myself, and also for the Chief Manager, for your vote of thanks.

A meeting of the agents of the "Conference" liners was held at the Exchange rooms, Singapore, on the 3rd August, to consider the possibility and advisability of raising the rates of freight for homeward bound steamers, and after some discussion it was decided that homeward rates to London, Liverpool, and the regular ports of call on the Continent should be increased from the 15th inst. to the end of the month to a minimum of 15s. per ton (Singapore scale). This decision has, we understand, been communicated to Penang by the mail to-day (5th). The low rates recently prevailing owing to competition have not only been not remunerative but have involved a steady loss to the carrying companies. After payment of Canal dues in some cases no more than three shillings to three shillings and sixpence was left to represent the payment for carrying a ton to England, and allow for insurance, depreciation, payment of coal, wages, stores, and the maintenance of the crew. *Free Press.*

H. G. BROWN AND COMPANY, LIMITED.

The seventh ordinary yearly meeting of the shareholders in H. G. Brown & Co., Limited, was held on the 17th August at the office of the General Managers, Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co. Mr. C. S. Sharp presided, and there were also present—Messrs. G. C. Cox, C. Palmer (Consulting Committee), A. B. Johnson, C. F. Harton, and W. Harrison.

The notice calling the meeting was read.

The CHAIRMAN—With your permission we will take the report and accounts as read. I regret very much that we have once more to come before you with an unsatisfactory report, the results of the working for 1895 being of a very disappointing nature. Thanks to the efforts of the Manila Committee, it had been found possible to curtail expenses somewhat, whilst on the other hand, as was intimated at the last meeting, more attention had been given to the development of the local business in rough timber with Manila, resulting in the outturn of timber shipped to that market being very greatly increased, and it was somewhat confidently expected that this would result in a fair balance on the right side. Prices, however, have been poor, and the shipment accounts leave a considerably smaller profit than in 1894, notwithstanding the larger business done, whilst the net balance of the Lagunian accounts is still to the bad, and it seems painfully evident that the Company cannot carry on the business as at present conducted at any profit. The sawmill has remained closed, and the Manila Committee have had it in view to dispose of this asset when any satisfactory offer is forthcoming. In the meantime, we are given to understand the machinery, &c., has been well cared for. The working of the Company's vessels has compared well with that during 1894, and happily we have had no casualties among them to record. You will observe from the accounts that there has been some writing off of bad debts, &c. This has been done in accordance with the recommendation of the auditor in Manila; the items referred to are almost entirely of old standing, and for some time past it had become rather apparent that most of these would not be recoverable, though we had the assurances of our former manager that the debts would almost all be recovered. In my remarks at the last meeting I made reference to the necessity for some writings off, as it has been evident for some time that the debit balance of profit and loss account, heavy as it is, does not represent the exact state of matters, and that there would have to be considerable writings down of most of the assets, as it is very unlikely that they would fetch within a good deal of their book values. This brings me to the question of the present position of the Company and the prospects for the future, and as we have presently to consider matters pertaining to this I will defer my remarks till the extraordinary meeting to be held after this. Before proposing the adoption of the report and accounts I shall be glad to answer, as far as I can, any questions that may be put.

Mr. HARRISON—In the accounts as they stand the stock of timber in Hongkong, Shanghai, and the Philippine Islands is put at \$24,000. Is that the actual value estimated?

The CHAIRMAN—We always carry forward our stock of timber at cost.

Mr. HARRISON—That is its full value?

The CHAIRMAN—Yes, the full value.

Mr. HARRISON—Is there any stock in Shanghai?

The CHAIRMAN—No, not in Shanghai; there is in Hongkong.

Mr. HARRISON—You put it at \$24,000. What do you estimate it would realise?

The CHAIRMAN—I find I have made a mistake. There is a small stock in Shanghai. If the whole stock was realised it would fetch about \$18,000.

Mr. HARRISON—And the loss?

The CHAIRMAN—There would be a loss. It is old stock—remnants of a good many old shipments to Hongkong.

Mr. HARRISON—\$6,000 would represent the loss on the stock?

The CHAIRMAN—Yes; most of it has been sold since the accounts were closed. We did not want to write off any loss until we had actually realised a loss. I said at the last meeting that there would certainly be a loss.

Mr. HARRISON asked if the item, Banahian cutting, was worth what it stood at.

The CHAIRMAN—It is good, and there will be very little loss, if any.

There were no more questions.

The CHAIRMAN—If there are no more questions I beg to propose the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. JOHNSON—I beg to second.

Carried.

On the motion of Mr. JOHNSON, seconded by Mr. HARTON, Messrs. G. C. Cox and C. Palmer were re-elected members of the Consulting Committee.

The re-election of Mr. Fullarton Henderson as auditor was proposed by Mr. HARTON, seconded by Mr. JOHNSON, and carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That concludes the business really before the ordinary meeting. It has been arranged by the Consulting Committee and ourselves that the resolution to be put before the extraordinary meeting can only be put in case the members at the annual meeting signify their approval of the course proposed. As a matter of form I now ask the shareholders present if they approve of the resolution which has been advertised being put.

The shareholders approved.

The CHAIRMAN—That concludes the business of the annual meeting. We will now constitute ourselves an extraordinary general meeting. Before proceeding with this I would ask shareholders present if they would prefer to hold this meeting in public with reporters present or whether they would prefer the discussion to be private.

Mr. HARRISON—I propose that reporters be present.

The shareholders agreed to the presence of reporters and the meeting was proceeded with.

The notice calling the meeting was read.

The CHAIRMAN—When we met last year, I made reference to the possibility of our being able to bring before you some scheme for a reconstruction of the Company involving a reduction of capital to meet losses already incurred and those estimates by which it was thought possible that the Company, making a fresh start under better auspices, might retrieve some of its past misfortune, but for various reasons it was not thought advisable to proceed with this, one of the reasons being the matter of expenses involved in making such changes, an outlay the Company could not well afford in the state of its affairs; and it was at the same time felt that the prospects of any real change for the better were somewhat doubtful. The results of the further working, as shown in the report and accounts just passed, have given us further data to go upon, and after careful and anxious thought we have reluctantly come to the conclusion that a voluntary liquidation of the Company will be the best course in the interests of the shareholders, and I shall later on have to ask you to signify your wishes as to the propriety of following this course which we recommend to you. It will be evident to you that we have given the business a long trial, as we have been most reluctant to come to the conclusion that a business like this, which at one time showed such favourable results, had better be given up; but so far all anticipations of improvement in the results of the working have been falsified and the assets are being gradually frittered away, and in our opinion, whatever hopes may be formed of better results in the future, the unhappy experiences of the past few years unfortunately make it only too likely that under present conditions the further working will only lead to further losses and leave less in the end to come back to shareholders if the liquidation be longer postponed. I quite believe that under certain conditions there is still money in this business, but handicapped as the Company is and has been we do not think it can conduct the business to pay. As intimated at a previous meeting, one of the great troubles has been the want of adequate control over the Company's servants, and chief of all has been the difficulty of getting a manager in every way suitable and satisfactory. As long as Mr.

Brown himself was in charge things were found to work smoothly and prosperously, but, unfortunately, almost ever since he retired we have had to contend with troubles and difficulties in every direction, and the results are now before us in the present highly unsatisfactory condition of the Company's affairs. These are all the remarks that occur to me just at present. Before proposing the resolution, I shall be ready to answer to the best of my power any questions which shareholders may desire to ask, or to hear any remarks they may have to make.

There were no questions and the CHAIRMAN proposed—"That the Company be wound up voluntarily under the provisions of the Companies Ordinances 1865-1891."

Mr. HARRISON, most of whose remarks could not be heard by the reporters, said his own interest in the Company was very small, and he had no authority to speak for the Manila shareholders; but he would like to second the resolution. The Company had been very unfortunate ever since it started.

The CHAIRMAN—Since Mr. Brown left.

Mr. HARRISON—Mr. Brown never belonged to the Company. He left when the Company was formed.

The CHAIRMAN—Some time after that the Company was very sound.

Mr. HARRISON—Yes, on paper.

Continuing, Mr. HARRISON said that when Mr. Brown was at the head of affairs he managed the business himself on economical lines. He was there himself and he paid the workmen workmen's wages. As soon as the Company started the wages were largely in excess of what they were in former times. After a few years a new man was engaged on the recommendation of Mr. Brown, and after considerable expense had been gone to in getting this man from home, like the famous Duke of York, he walked up the hill and down again. There was no doubt that the Company had been unfortunate since its commencement, and the best thing to do was to wind up the company as quickly as possible. They must accept the best offer they could obtain and must not allow any time to elapse for greater expenses to be incurred. He therefore had great pleasure in seconding the resolution.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That concludes the business of the extraordinary general meeting. A confirmatory meeting, of which notice will be given, will—

Mr. HARRISON hoped the business would be wound up speedily. It was no good waiting while expenses were getting greater.

The CHAIRMAN—I understand that the only form of winding up the Company is to first of all get the resolution passed putting the Company into liquidation, get the resolution confirmed, and a liquidator appointed. Instructions can then be given to the liquidator as to what course must be followed. The confirmatory meeting will be held on Wednesday fortnight. That concludes the business of the meeting. I am very much obliged to you for your attendance.

POLO.

The final in the second tournament for Mr. May's Cup was played off on 11th August. The ground was in very good order after the recent rain. The opposing teams were—

THE CLUB.

Hon. T. H. Whitehead (back)
Mr. John Hastings (3)
Captain Loveband (2)
Mr. Ross (1)

THE ROYAL ARTILLERY.

Captain Burney (back)
Mr. Grayson (3)
Mr. Buzzard (2)
Mr. Lewin (1)

The Club were supposed to be rather the stronger team of the two, as they had defeated the Rifle Brigade and the Rifle Brigade had defeated The Gunners. And the backers of the Club were not disappointed, as after a fast and good game the Club were victorious by 5 goals and 2 subsidiaries against 2 goals and 1 subsidiary.

The Gunners played a very plucky game, never giving up hope that by some lucky chance the Cup might grace their mess table for two or three months until again brought forward for competition. We congratulate Captain Burney in having got together such good stuff out of so few numbers to choose from. For the losers Mr. Grayson and Captain Burney played well. For the winners Mr. Whitehead's back-handers were sure and true and Mr. Ross played a good game at (1). Captain Loveband did not play up to his form; his trip to Japan has not tended to improve his polo.

HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

SCOTLAND V. THE WORLD.

The great "international" match of the year was played on the 13th August on the Happy Valley Links. When using the term "international" one pauses for a moment to consider whether it is quite the correct term to use. We presume, however, it must be, as there is no doubt that Scotland, in the eyes of her children, is a sanctified spot, with which no other country or nation can in any manner compare. Journey where you will, to any of England's—we beg pardon. Great Britain's colonies, there you will find the "braw laddie" ready to take you on at any game from tossing the caber to shove halfpenny, and you may bet your boots that he will, as a rule, get 6 to 4 the best of you.

Behold them now,—six brawny sons of the "Land o' Cakes" awaiting the onslaught of a mixed crew from England, Ireland, and Wales. There they stand, the flash of pride in their eyes denoting their nationality, wielding their clubs with all the self assurance of a man born in the land of a "Tom Morris," a "Hutchinson," a "Kircaldy," or a "Tait." We may put Johnnie Ball, Taylor, Hilton, Vardon, and such like persons on one side on this occasion; they are mere nonentities, small fry, and—Englishmen!!! However, notwithstanding the flashing eye, the scream of the pipes, and the waving of plaids and sporrans, the defenders of the honour of the less important part of the World are determined if possible to lower the thistle and exalt the rose, shamrock, and leek. We are greatly indebted to Scotland for giving us the grand game of golf and although Englishmen and others will of course endeavour to defeat Scotchmen at their own or any other game, they always have their work cut out to do it. On this occasion Scotland thoroughly upheld her banner, defeating the World by no less than 9 holes.

THE SCORES.

Scotland.		World.	
Mr. C. E. Humé	1	Capt. W. V. Eccles ...	0
Mr. G. Stewart	4	Mr. V. A. C. Hawkins	0
Mr. A. S. Anton	5	Capt. Rumsey	0
Mr. G. M. T. Thomson	2	Rev. G. R. Vallings...	0
Mr. H. L. Dalrymple	0	Mr. W. M. Thompson	2
Commodore Boyes	0	Mr. E. A. Ram	1
	12		3

THE VICINAGE OF THE PEAK.

Is the Peak in the vicinity of the City of Victoria? Some people might think it is, but according to the ruling of Hon. Commander Hastings it is not. The interesting question was asked in a case which formed a sequel to the little incident of the brick that fell down in Major Moore's room. Major Moore summoned the contractor on the 14th August under Ordinance 17 of 1844 for unlawfully making a noise calculated to interfere with the quiet of the complainant. The defendant, Kwong Cheng, was represented by Mr. Grist, who took a preliminary objection to the summons being heard. The Ordinance of 1844, he said, referred to the town of Victoria and its vicinity, but the Peak was not in the vicinity of the town and it was absurd to think that it was. Major Moore, who conducted his own case, contended that the Peak was in the vicinity of Victoria. When the Ordinance was passed there was, properly speaking, no Eastern district, or Western district, or Peak district, and he submitted that the framer of the Ordinance intended that all those districts should be included in the vicinity of the city. Mr. Grist again urged that the summons could not

be heard. The Peak was a separate district altogether; it was separated entirely from the town by a stretch of country. The Magistrate upheld the view of Mr. Grist and dismissed the summons. It may be interesting to state that Webster says that "vicinity does not commonly denote so close a connection as neighbourhood," and he also gives another definition of the word—"that which is adjacent to anything; adjoining space or country." But of course Webster could not have been thinking of the proximity of the Peak to the city or the curious twists of Hongkong laws.

THE LAW AND THE MAJOR.

I.

A certain worthy Major on his bed lay soundly sleeping,
The sun, so early was it, o'er the hills was barely peeping
When from above a brickbat came a-bounding and a-leaping
And fell—well! very close in his vicinity.

II.

The doughty Major sprang from bed, so quickly was he woke up,
The vials of his wrath began immediately to stoke up,
And looking round about he spied a wretched Chinese bloke up
On the roof,—and quite in his vicinity.

III.

The gallant Major seeing him, cries "Dash my notes and dollars!"
And as he rushes from the room a walking stick he collars,
And gives that Chinaman a whack, at which he loudly hollers!
On his back—well! I judge in its vicinity.

IV.

The bobbies coming round next day served our hero with a paper,
Which ordered him before the Peak to answer for his "vapour."
He went; and was bound over, and thus was an escaper,
From "Bell's retreat"—or close in its vicinity.

V.

The Major's brow grew thoughtful, but he well controlled his passion;
Says he, "I'll serve that Leggar out in quite a different fashion,
I'll sue him for disturbance, and teach him bricks to smash on
Me—or anywhere in my vicinity."

VI.

So up they came before his "Nils." The Chinese had a lawyer,
Who carried something up his sleeve which beat the gallant "War-ye."
The Act, this wily Grist gave out, only includes Victoria,
By law, the Peak—is not in its vicinity.

VII.

Now the moral of this ruling is, that Peakites will not tarry,
To paint the place a vivid red and play our old friend Harry,
And when run in, assuredly the question they will parry.
Oh! The Peak is not included in "Vicinity."
HAI YA.

CORRECTION.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

TELEGRAPH RATES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—With a view to breaking down the monopoly of the Cable Company I would venture to suggest that it may be found possible to send telegrams to Europe via Canton and Burma. One line from the north of the latter country already connects with the Chinese telegraphs near Momein in Yunnan. I am not certain that private telegrams can as yet be sent this way, but there seems no reason why they should not in the future. Another and perhaps preferable route would be via Canton and Hanoi. The Tonkin telegraphs are not as yet indeed linked up with the Burmese system. There can be no doubt, however, that this will very soon take place, as we have already a telegraph line to our frontier post, and an enlightened Government such as the French can be depended on not only to connect with our system, but also to keep their part of the line in good repair.

An agitation is now going on to reduce the rates to India to a shilling a word, so it would seem that if not now, at any rate in the near future, it will be possible to send telegrams overland via Burma and India at very much lower rates than the telegraph company here seems disposed to allow.

The above suggestions are given for what they are worth, as I am not an expert in these matters, and there may of course be grave objections to the route proposed.

ANGLO-BURMAN.

Hongkong, 14th August, 1896.

"WHY THE STATUE IS IN BRONZE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Dear Sir,—In your weekly issue of June 4th I find an account of the unveiling of the Jubilee Statue of H.M. the Queen, also a letter from the Hon. J. J. Keswick explaining why the Statue is in bronze instead of marble, and I regret to take exception to it.

I must emphatically say that on my part there has been no misunderstanding, as from the very commencement my instructions were to execute a standing statue for bronze. When I had finished the model of the standing statue 10 feet high as per tender, the order was countermanded by the Committee through Mr. Keswick for the present sitting statue for bronze; this incurred the making of a new model and considerable alteration to the size and proportions of the canopy, for all of which extra labour I have had no compensation whatever.

It was only at a later date, when Mr. Keswick and the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart visited my studio to approve of the model of the present sitting statue, that I heard for the first time the Committee expected the statue to be in marble, and I was then requested by these gentlemen, after inquiring what extra expense it would entail to produce it in marble, to stay the work pending decision. I estimated the cost at £1,500 and I fear this was the real cause of the work being in bronze instead of marble.

On 5th February, 1890, I wrote Mr. Keswick as follows:—"The question which I am anxious to have settled is whether the statue shall be in marble or bronze," and on the 14th of March, 1890, I received from him my final instructions to proceed with the statue in "bronze." In conclusion, may I add that I designed the canopy with the four allegorical statues mentioned in your issue for each corner, as you will perceive by the four pedestals provided for that purpose. I venture to hope that they may yet be done, as the monument is now incomplete and the improvement would be very considerable.

I remain, faithfully yours,

M. RAGGI.

44, Osunburgh Street, Regent's Park,
London, N. W.
17th July, 1896.

A ONE SIDED STORY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—Referring to the proceedings in the Summary Court, as reported in your columns on the 12th inst. I desire to call attention to the fact that only the plaintiff's side of the case was heard. Mr. H. W. Looker, of Mr. V. H. Deacon's office, said I had admitted the debt but now wished to evade payment because the plaintiff was an undischarged bankrupt, which is entirely untrue. I offered to pay the amount I personally owed, but this amount the plaintiff refused to accept. Upon learning that the plaintiff was an undischarged bankrupt, I was advised not to pay any money due to the plaintiff to any one without receiving a valid receipt as otherwise I might be called upon to pay it again. It will therefore be seen that Mr. Looker's statements without the other side of the case were calculated to put an entirely incorrect impression of the matter before the public. Mr. Victor Deacon had been informed the night before of the reason for my declining to pay any part of the claim. As the plaintiff was nonsuited as being an undischarged bankrupt there was no opportunity for my statement of the case to be put before the court or the public. Thanking you in anticipation.—I am, yours faithfully,

R. L. THOMAS.

Hongkong, 15th August, 1896.

HONGKONG VOLUNTEERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—I note with much pleasure the very sensible remarks made by H. E. Major-General Black on the occasion of the distribution of prizes to the Volunteers on Friday last. The General evidently is much interested in Volunteers and knows exactly the essential qualities such men should possess to meet emergencies. I have always been of the General's opinion "that unless a soldier can shoot he is not much use." We have on more than one occasion suffered severe losses through the bad shooting of our men when they were opposed to men who knew how to shoot, but who were not trained soldiers by any means. At the present time, when foreign powers possess immense armies armed with long range and accurate weapons capable of rapid delivery, it behoves every Britisher to know how to shoot with a rifle in case he is required to assist in the defence of his country and the maintenance of England's supremacy. Military literature has taught us that in actual warfare fortune favours the biggest battalions and the straightest shooters. I sincerely trust that the standard of our soldiers' shooting has immensely improved with the use of the new rifle. It is no use supplying men with arms of precision unless the mode of training has improved their shooting qualities. To make a good shot for the field plenty of practice is necessary; and I think more cartridges than the number allowed at present ought to be expended by each individual soldier. Shooting competitions should be encouraged as much as possible. If the Volunteers as a body are better shots than the regulars, then it is entirely owing to the fact that the Volunteers have more practice. I cannot understand why Britishers do not give more attention to shooting than they do. If they took as much interest in rifle shooting as they do in cricket, football, tennis, billiards, and cycling, and were as proficient in the use of the rifle as they are in the above mentioned amusements, I do not think there would be any cause to fear a military campaign with the strongest foreign power. It is a great pity and very discouraging to the Commanding Office, of the Volunteers in Hongkong that more men do not join; there are plenty of British civilians here, a good many of whom find ample time to attend various amusements, but take no interest in the Volunteers. Any one who has visited Shanghai and has seen a full muster of the Volunteers there will be astonished at their number; but then there is always a better spirit shown in anything they undertake in that Model Settlement. A Rifle Association we have, but not every one has time and the means to belong to it; besides, in my humble opinion, the system of shooting adopted by the Rifle Association is not conducive to the making of effective marksmen. A person so trained is not the likely man to "shoot the dog," especially if the animal made his appearance unexpectedly at an unascertained distance, and was trotting along quietly across an open space, say 50 yards wide, or down hill below the shooter. Of course, it would be expected that the dog would be a full sized one, about 24 inches high at the shoulder. I can safely say, and I am sure experienced shots will agree with me, that heavy odds would be on the dog. I am surprised that those who have the management of the Rifle Association, a society to all intents and purposes intended to promote the art of rifle shooting, do not get up competitions at moveable objects, etc., verniers, wind-gauges, and paints disallowed. I am sure this would be a more practical and interesting form of shooting than potting away at large stationary targets with the aid of the most approved appliances, etc. The best shots I ever saw were men who had practised at all kinds of objects, stationary and moveable, and had to judge their own distances and windage. Some of them knew little or nothing about verniers, etc., but they could make a "dog feel very sick" if he happened to cross their paths. The second remark of our much respected General is a step in the right direction, i.e. "to get men to put down their names who would join the Corps in case of emergency." I hope the Commandant and his officers will try this scheme and that their enterprising efforts will be rewarded by a long list of availables. There

is not the slightest doubt that, should we ever be so unfortunate as to be pushed for men, plenty will be forthcoming. When England calls to arms there will be an abundance of men awaiting her orders. In Hongkong there are sufficient civilians to form a strong Volunteer Corps; some have gained a little experience in active service, others are good rifle shots at all round shooting. All my friends would volunteer in case of emergency; but as the old adage says, "a bird in hand is worth two in the bush," and no doubt that is what the General was aiming at. If sufficient men were brought together a whole-some enthusiasm in volunteer work would quickly follow, and men would soon discover the benefits accruing from such exercise and training, and very probably they would eventually join the regular Corps. An effective body of Volunteers with some good marksmen amongst them, accompanied by a company handling ten Maxim guns, would be very destructive to an enemy; the marksmen would do the picking off and the Maxims the volley firing. Ten Maxims at 500 shots per minute will deliver 5,000 a minute. Such a body of men would be a formidable foe to encounter when located in the nooks and corners of Hongkong. I trust I shall not be attacked by any one who does not agree with my opinions, as I am only a civilian and belong to the masses. Perhaps I have no right to speak on military matters, but I always take a keen interest in the defence of my country; and I think that every Britisher ought to interest himself in the same cause. I am unaccustomed to writing to the press, so I am at a loss to adequately express and emphasize my perhaps somewhat vague ideas. Before I close this letter I may add that limited time has prevented me from being a volunteer, but I am quite willing to put my name down as the good General suggested, although at the present time illness confines me at home; but as soon as I hear that steps are taken to organize this useful body (and I may here venture a suggestion that a note in the daily papers would be a good plan) I shall subscribe my name at once.—I am, sir, yours faithfully,

DOUGALL.

Hongkong 13th August, 1896.

THE SHANGHAI GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At the meeting of the Committee of the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce, held at the offices, No. 1, Kinkiang Road, on Monday, the 10th August, 1896, at 4 p.m.

Present:—Messrs. C. J. Dudgeon (Vice-Chairman), E. F. Alford, D. Brand, A. Korff, J. H. McMichael, D. M. Moses, E. B. Skottowe, and the Acting Secretary.

The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

Chairmanship.—Mr. C. J. Dudgeon suggested that the present was a good opportunity for electing a Chairman *vice* Mr. A. P. McEwen, and proposed that Mr. E. F. Alford fill the position. This was seconded by Mr. J. H. McMichael; and, on being put to the meeting, was carried unanimously.

Mr. Alford then took the Chair.

After the consideration of general business the following correspondence was ordered for publication:—

RIVER CONSERVANCY.

Shanghai, 7th July, 1896.

S. No. 54.

Sir,—By your letter of the 4th of June last, the attention of the Consular Body was again called to the dangers connected with the navigation of the Woosung Bar and the Whangpoo River, to remedy which it was, in the opinion of the Chamber of Commerce, absolutely requisite that the existing rules should be observed by vessels of all nationalities visiting the Port of Shanghai. The Chamber suggested that, to consider the question at issue, a Commission of Enquiry should be appointed, the constitution of which might be determined by the Consular Body.

The matter was fully considered by the Consular Body in their meeting of the 25th of June last, but though sympathising with the endeavours of the Chamber of Commerce to

render the navigation of the Whangpoo River safer than it is at present, my colleagues and I were again unable to admit that this most desirable end could be realised by any local action on the part of either the representatives of the Foreign Trade of the Port or the Consular Body, but that there was no other way leading to it but to embody the necessary stipulations in a special clause when a new Convention was made between the Chinese Government and the Treaty Powers.—I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant,

O. STUEBEL,

Consul-General for Germany, and Senior Consul.

To C. J. Dudgeon, Esq., Vice-Chairman of the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce.

Shanghai, 22nd July, 1896.

Sir,—The Committee of this Chamber, at this meeting on Monday last, fully discussed your letter of the 7th of July referring to the navigation of the Whangpoo. The Committee are satisfied that they are right in urging the principal of the establishment of a Conservancy Board, and if that principle is accepted the detailed scheme could be easily formulated, and they therefore beg that you will kindly lay their proposition before the Foreign Representatives at Peking, explaining the great necessity that exists for international recognition of special and stringent regulations for the navigation of the Woosung Bar and the Whangpoo.—I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant.

C. J. DUDGEON,

Vice-Chairman.

To Dr. O. Stuebel,

Consul-General for Germany and Senior Consul.

INCREASED TELEGRAPH CHARGES.

General Chamber of Commerce.

Shanghai, 4th August, 1896.

Dear Sir,—Your advertisement of an increased scale of charges for telegrams has not unnaturally excited considerable comment, and the Committee of this Chamber are urged to make representation in opposition thereto. Before doing so, however, it is deemed reasonable to enquire if you will favour them with any explanation as to the grounds for what appears to be an exaction from the public, and I should be much obliged if you would afford an early reply, as other Chambers are pressing for united action.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

C. J. DUDGEON,

Vice-Chairman.

To J. Henningsen, Esq.,

On behalf of the Great Northern Telegraph Co. Eastern Extension A. & C. Telegraph Co.

The Great Northern Telegraph Company of Copenhagen.

The Eastern Extension Australasia and China Telegraph Company, Limited.

Shanghai Station,

4th August, 1896.

Sir,—I have duly received your to-day's letter referring to my advertisements of an increased collection of charges for certain telegrams and requesting me to furnish you with an explanation of what you are pleased to say "appears to be an exaction from the public."

In reply I beg to refer you to the terms of the advertisement in question, which plainly set forth the grounds compelling the Telegraph Companies to augment the silver amounts, which they have hitherto collected in China as insufficient equivalents for their authorised official gold rates, which are made up of their own proportion and of that payable in gold to other Administrations, exactly in the same manner as has been done by other public companies and corporations, whose tariffs are based on a gold standard and collected here in silver.

I may add that this step has been taken by the Companies with the approval of the different Governments concerned, and on the understanding that the present rate for telegrams from Europe to China, viz., 8 francs 50 centimes (equal to about \$3) per word, shall be reduced to 7 francs from the 1st July, 1897, when the rates decided upon by the International Telegraph Conference held in Budapest last month will come into operation.—I

have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

J. HENNINGSSEN,
Manager in China and Japan.
To C. J. Dudgeon, Esq.,
Vice-Chairman, Shanghai General Chamber
of Commerce. Present.

General Chamber of Commerce,
Shanghai, 11th August, 1896.

Sir,—Whilst thanking you for your letter of 4th inst. in reply to that of the same date from this Chamber, I am asked to express the disappointment of the Committee at your very incomplete response to their enquiry as to the reasons for the recent sudden and enormous increase in your tariff of charges.

Dealing with rates to the United Kingdom, as an example of your charges, it appears that in December, 1895, you reduced the same from \$2.30 per word (which had long prevailed) to \$2.00 per word, a reduction welcomed by all, though not unexpected or uncalled for in view of the vast increase which had undoubtedly taken place in the volume of messages transmitted and the corresponding beneficial effect on your revenue.

In face of this, and notwithstanding the fact that the course of silver exchange has not proved disadvantageous to your Companies, you now without a word of warning or regret raise your rates from \$2.00 to \$2.75 per word, i.e., 37½ per cent., or over 20 per cent. more than you charged prior to the reduction in Dec., 1895, and your only reply to our enquiry as to your reasons is, that you intend to place local rates on a parity with gold charges elsewhere, regulated at your pleasure.

Your revenue is derived in the main from mercantile firms, many of whom pay several thousands of pounds sterling towards your support every year, and it is inexplicable that an addition of 37½ per cent. to your tariff should be considered justifiable at a few days' notice, and presumingly treated as a matter of trifling importance. Your Directors in taking such a course are apparently ignorant or have ignored the fact that though the volume of trade may be increasing, the margins of profit have narrowed to an extent which often causes telegraphic expenses to check business, and your action therefore means that messages will be restricted in every possible manner both in number and in length. Thus, whilst your revenue will probably derive little or no advantage, you will have turned satisfaction into dissatisfaction amongst those to whom you are almost entirely indebted for your success in the East.

In addressing you thus plainly the Committee have no desire to depart from the friendly and mutually advantageous relations of the past, for they feel assured that the results of your action cannot have been duly considered, and they will therefore be obliged by your transmitting by wire to your Head Office the protest and expression of views which they now record.

E. F. ALFORD,
Chairman.

To J. Henningsen, Esq.,
On behalf of the Great Northern Telegraph
Co., Eastern Ext. A. & C. Telegraph Co.

THE SAIGON PIECE GOODS TRADE.

The *Courrier de Saigon* says:—We have already remarked on the change which is taking place, as shown by the Customs returns, in the piece goods trade of Cochin-China. This change is entirely to the advantage of France and the import statistics for the month of April show that it is becoming more accentuated. During that month the import of unbleached cottons from France was 75,216 kilogrammes as against 38,702 in April, 1895, while the import from foreign countries fell from 189,235 kilogrammes in April, 1895, to 25 kilogrammes in April, 1896. Similar results are seen in bleached goods. The importation of these was 144,095 kilogrammes in April, 1896, as against 86,244 kilogrammes in April, 1895, and this increase was almost entirely in favour of French goods, which rose from 35,666 kilogrammes to 79,280, showing an increase of

43,614, while foreign goods show an increase of 14,237 kilogrammes, having risen from 50,578 to 64,815. For the first four months of the year French unbleached goods rose from 87,961 kilogrammes in 1895 to 302,526 in 1896, while foreign goods fell from 288,397 to 3,112. In bleached goods the share of France rose from 100,034 kilogrammes in 1895 to 275,757 in 1896, while that of foreign countries fell from 429,583 kilogrammes in 1895 to 322,156 in 1896. To sum up, France's share of the trade during the first four months, which was 21 per cent. in 1895, was 64 per cent. in 1896. It is the efforts of our cotton industry that have realised this happy result and there is no doubt that they will succeed in completely commanding the Cochin-China market, French being substituted for foreign goods.

QUARANTINE AT MANILA.

A meeting of the "Junta Superior de Sanidad" was held at Manila on the 10th August, which lasted from half-past nine in the morning until two in the afternoon. We translate from the *Comercio* the following report:—

The meeting was held for the purpose of arriving at a decision with reference to the quarantining of vessels from China in consequence of the information which the Consul for Spain at Hongkong has telegraphed with reference to the propagation of bubonic plague in the ports of the neighbouring empire. The quarantine decree of the 27th June last, establishing a quarantine of from three to seven days on vessels arriving from China, had to be amended almost immediately, greater rigour in the observation and quarantine having been established, which has been maintained to the present time. These alterations and the manner in which they have been carried out were the subject of a long and animated debate, in which all the members of the Junta took part, and more especially Senor Torres y Perona (an elected member) and Senor Pareja (Naval Sanitary Inspector). The first named, while recognising the importance of the epidemic in its bearing on these islands, contended that very extreme measures of quarantine should not be enforced; while the second was of opinion that all possible rigour should be exercised in the imposition of quarantine. Seeing that the Junta was not unanimous a vote was taken on certain propositions, for which all voted (including Senor Torres y Perona) except Senor Pareja, who recorded his dissent. The decision was to the effect that vessels of war arriving from infected ports in China shall be subjected to three days' observation in the bay and merchant vessels to fifteen days' quarantine at Mariveles if they have Chinese on board and, if there are no Chinese on board, to fifteen days less the time occupied by the voyage if in the opinion of the officers charged with the inspection the sanitary condition and cleanliness of the vessel justifies the remission of the time occupied by the voyage. It was resolved that the Junta should meet again shortly if there were any new developments to consider.

THE MAHOMMEDAN REBELLION.

Peking advices report that despatches under date June last have been received at the Board of War from General Tung Fuhsiang, Commander-in-Chief of the forces operating against the Mahommedan rebels in Kansu, announcing that all the important places formerly captured by the rebels in that province have been retaken, and that the country is practically quieted, except in certain out-of-the-way hill districts towards the Great Desert or Shamu. Mahommedan villages which had remained loyal throughout the rebellion have been rewarded and guaranteed protection by General Tung, while others which surrendered have been amnestied. It was only those refusing to surrender which were cut down to a man by the Imperial Commanders. The disturbed districts having been occupied by the troops, General Tung states that he intends to send picked corps of mountaineers composed of Chinese, Tibetans, and Mongols against the rebels who have fled into the hills.—*N. C. Daily News.*

THE HANYANG IRONWORKS.

In a recent report of the Board of Revenue favouring the memorial of the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung recommending the giving of the Director-Generalship of the Hanyang Iron Works, the various coal and iron mines and the railway connecting these mines with the Iron Works to Sheng Taotai, formerly Customs Taotai of Tientsin, as the head of a syndicate of wealthy native merchants, gentry, and notables, it is recommended that his Majesty Kuang-Hsu should issue an edict commanding the Imperial High Commissioners at Tientsin and Nanking and the various Viceroys and Governors of the Empire to send all their orders for iron and steel to the Hanyang Iron Works, and asking that no one amongst them shall be allowed to order these things from foreign countries. For the production of this commodity will in the future be a source of great revenue to the country, and China is determined to keep her wealth within her own boundaries. Further, as the syndicate of merchants expect to sink an enormous sum to bring the said Iron Works, etc., to a high state of perfection so as to be able to compete successfully with the iron and steel foundries of foreign countries, it is but right that they should be given the prospective encouragement of having the sole monopoly (native competitors not included) of supplying iron and steel made after the foreign style in China. The productions of the Iron Works will also be exempted from taxes for ten years.—*N. C. Daily News.*

ATTACK ON A FOREIGNER AT YOKOHAMA.

The *Japan Mail* of the 8th August says:—A cowardly assault was committed by some Japanese firemen about 9 o'clock on Thursday evening, upon Mr. William Barrie, Superintending Engineer of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. Dissatisfaction had been engendered among the fireman in the employ of the N.Y.K. through some of their number being threatened with dismissal, and Chinese taken on in their stead in the case of one of the foreign bound steamers. A party of these men proceeded to Mr. Barrie's house on the Bluff armed with iron hammers and crowbars, and demanded to see him. Upon Mr. Barrie's appearing they at once struck him on the head, inflicting two wounds, one over the eye, the other upon the scalp. Mr. Barrie, bleeding profusely, managed to escape, and then the ruffians proceeded to break every pane of glass and piece of furniture they could reach, and to jostle and insult Mrs. Barrie. Meanwhile, neighbours hearing the noise of the disturbance, came out to Mr. Barrie's assistance, and the police were sent for. Dr. Wheeler was also called in and he dressed the wounds. Two of the ring-leaders in the cowardly attack were arrested that night, and by four o'clock next afternoon twenty more were captured and held for examination. Meanwhile, police are guarding the house. Mr. Barrie, we understand, is progressing favourably, and hopes to get out of the house next week. We trust that an example will be made of these insubordinate ruffians.

HONGKONG.

The weather has been intensely hot during the past week and some cooling rain would be very welcome. On Thursday the Sanitary Board held its fortnightly meeting. On Saturday the half-yearly meeting of the shareholders of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation was held. On the same day information reached Hongkong of the destruction by fire at sea of the ship *Flora P. Stafford*. Part of the crew came to the colony in the *Esmeralda*, and their experiences were of a very exciting character. On Monday it was decided to wind up H. G. Brown & Co., Limited. The detailed report on the loss of the gunboat *Ilus* arrived on Monday, and it gives a graphic account of the splendid bravery of the officers and men when they knew that most of them were doomed to die.

A telegram from Yokohama, received at Shanghai, says that the sky was clear during the eclipse on the 9th August at Tokyo and Yokohama, and that in the north of Yesso, where the scientific expeditions had gone, the sky was cloudy, and no observations were made.

There were 2,353 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 154 were Europeans. The stamp revenue last month was \$17,636, being a decrease of \$1,004 on the amount collected in the corresponding month last year.

A Chinaman was fined \$50 at the Magistracy on the 12th August for trespassing near the forts on Stonecutters' Island.

At the Magistracy on the 13th August before Hon. Commander Hastings, a boatman was charged with anchoring at Bay View within the prohibited area which embraces the line of telegraphable. The defendant was fined \$25.

The death rate last month was, for the British and Foreign community, civil population, 48.8, and for the Chinese community 18.3. Of the deaths amongst the British and Foreign community three are entered as due to heat apoplexy and one to sunstroke.

The Tientsin correspondent of the *Mercury*, writing on the 4th August, says:—An express issued here to-day advertises shipment of freight from Hongkong to New York 16 shillings per ton, including transshipment. Cheap indeed as against 44 shillings to London from here.

On Wednesday afternoon Mr. Prosser sold by auction a piece of Crown land at the North of Honghom Police Station. The lot, which contains 19,300 square feet, produces an annual rent of \$95 and was sold to Mr. Ho Tak Wing for \$1,554, \$10 above the upset price.

By the *Empress of China* on the 12th August Colonel Anstey, R.E., Colonel Barr, of the Pay Department, and Surgeon-Major Hayes left for England, all of them invalided by a Medical Board and, on the recommendation of the Board, granted six months' leave. Much regret will be felt at the loss of these officers from the local garrison and at the cause of it.

On Wednesday night a Chinaman fell from the balcony of the Kow Shing Theatre on to the floor and severely cut his head. Fortunately a police officer and warder were near at hand and they stopped the bleeding and bandaged up the wounds. The injured man is now so much better that he thinks, it is said, of trying for the St. John's Ambulance badge himself.

The Right Rev. L. M. Piazzoli begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the Home for the Aged and Infirm:—

Already acknowledged.....	\$3,140
Mr. Leon Vincart (Belgium Consul).....	25
Mr. G. de Champeaux.....	25
Mr. J. M. de Costa Campos.....	25
Mr. A. Cattaneo.....	5

At the Police Court on the 12th August Captain Stopani was summoned for blowing the whistle of the *Fame* for an unnecessary length of time. The *Fame* was towing the *Empress of China* into dock and in order to attract the attention of the dock officials four rather long blows of the whistle were given. Hon. Commander Hastings fined defendant \$2 for each blow.

The plague is dying, but dying slowly. From noon on Saturday, the 8th inst., to noon on the 15th inst. there were ten cases. From noon last Saturday to noon on Monday there have been five cases. Two of the patients are privates in the Hongkong Regiment and one is a subadar in the Regiment. It is believed that an Indian child has also been attacked with plague.

The Secretary of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce informs us that under date of the 4th inst. the Colonial Secretary has addressed the following letter to the Chamber:—

"With reference to my letter No. 672 of the 2nd May, I am directed to inform you that I learn from the Consul for France that the prohibition of the importation of cattle into Indo-China from Hongkong has been withdrawn."

Mr. A. Kidd, Lloyd's representative at Singapore, writes to the *Free Press*:—With reference to your query regarding the wreck of a steamer called the *Drummond Castle* in 1823, this is obviously a misprint, as no such steamer existed at that date, nor had any steamer then reached Chinese waters. The wreck you refer to was that of the steamer *Drummond Castle* belonging to Messrs. T. Skinner and Co. (as conjectured by your previous correspondent) and built in Dec. 1871. 1,985 gross tonnage. She was wrecked in 1873, as recorded in the Society's Register Book for that year.

Telegraphic intelligence has been received that the medical inspection of vessels from Canton, Hongkong, and Swatow has been discontinued at Shanghai.

The native papers state that the Tsungli Yamen has presented a memorial to the Throne, suggesting that all goods manufactured by the aid of machinery in China shall be subjected to a duty of 10 per cent. on their value upon the goods leaving the factories or mills, such duty to render the goods free to go wherever they are to be taken.—*China Gazette*.

Her Majesty's approval of the Ordinance to prevent doubts as to the validity of documents heretofore sealed with the Seal of the Colonial Court of Admiralty of Hongkong and the Ordinance for the Incorporation of the President in Hongkong of the Basel Mission is notified in the *Gazette*, and, both Ordinances having been passed with suspending clauses, it is proclaimed that they shall come into operation to-day, 17th August.

On Sunday the Chinese theatres in the colony were opened for public performances by permission of the Governor. This is the first time the theatres have been allowed to be opened on a Sunday, and we understand that the new system, which was adopted in response to a petition from the Chinese, is to be on trial for three months. If satisfactory reports are presented at the end of that time it is probable that the theatres will be permanently opened on Sundays.

Shortly after three o'clock on the afternoon of the 14th August a fire broke out under the stairs of a coalstore at 10, Ship Street, Wanchai. The alarm was given at No. 2 Police Station by a lukong, and a detachment of firemen, under Mr. Lethbridge and Deputy Superintendent Corcoran, at once turned out. The building is a two storey one, the upper room being used as a coolie house, and the place was completely burnt out. No one was in the house at the time and it is not known what caused the fire. The premises were insured for \$500.

The work of repairing the damage caused by the typhoon at the Victoria Recreation Club is almost completed. The bath itself has not been touched, and instead of the set of dressing sheds one large covered matched has been erected on the same spot. Bathers will prepare for their dip in the dressing room of the club and then cross a screened bridge to get to the bath, the large matched being intended, not for dressing, but for a sort of lounge. The annual aquatic sports will be held on September 4th and 5th and special arrangements are being made for the meeting. We understand that a letter has been sent to the Government asking for permission to erect a substantial club building near Blue Buildings. Although the site is perhaps rather too far away it is to be hoped that the Government will see its way to accede to the request or else offer a more suitable site. The present building and the miserable accommodation for bathers would never be tolerated by any insignificant and impecunious local authority anywhere else, and why Hongkong, of all places in the world, does not offer better facilities for a refreshing swim is one of those things nobody can understand.

About 4.15 on Saturday afternoon a somewhat serious accident occurred at 16, Praya Central. The building is a three storeyed one and is owned by Lai Him, a well-known land lord. The ground floor is occupied by Messrs. Lamke and Rogge and the Gordon Steam-launch Company, the first floor by Messrs. Lants, Wegener and Co., and the top floor by the British Mercantile Marine Officers' Association. During the past few days workmen have been engaged in pulling down the verandahs, which were in an unsafe condition and were to be replaced by new ones. Instead of starting at the top the workmen adopted the principle of pulling away the supports of the two lower storeys and of course the inevitable result followed. The verandahs collapsed and a workman named Lo Yan, 29 years of age, was injured about the legs and had to be removed to the Government Civil Hospital. The other workmen fortunately escaped injury. They heard sounds of the coming crash and hastily sought places of safety and so got scot free. The police were very soon on the scene and blocked the roadway, and later the P.W.D. officials arrived and took steps to prop up the rickety portions of the verandahs which had not fallen.

MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

14th August.

H.E. Governor Horta e Costa, who is on leave at Lisbon, has telegraphed to his Secretary saying that in a few days he is leaving for Spain and Paris on his return journey and will leave Marseilles by the French mail of the 30th inst., so we may expect him to be amongst us again by the beginning of October. His Excellency went home on account of his health and also to urge upon the home Government to sanction improvements in the colony. During his two years here as Governor His Excellency has worked very hard and done all in his power for the welfare and prosperity of the place. That he has not accomplished more is only because the home Government has refused compliance with many of his requests. Amongst the most conspicuous of the improvements he has effected is the doing away with the most filthy and unhealthy quarters of Volong and the encouragement of the building of a better class of houses at Sakong. No doubt after personally informing the home Government of what is required for the benefit of the colony he will return with enlarged powers and on resuming his difficult task will be able to carry out many of his schemes that he has hitherto been obstructed in. His many friends here are anxious for his arrival, which will be a gala day for Macao, as the whole community are eager to have the opportunity of showing to Senhor Horta e Costa our gratitude for all he has done for the colony during the two years of his government which have already elapsed and for his previous services as the colony's deputy in the Chamber at Lisbon.

A supplement to the *Boletim Official* has just been published notifying receipt of a telegram saying that in view of the representations made by the Governor in person at Lisbon the Government authorises, provisionally, the payment of the native soldiers of Macao at the same rate as formerly. A few months ago an order was received directing the pay to be reduced, which was done. By native soldiers are meant the Macaoese of the local Regiment.

Up to the present the Leal Senado has done nothing more about the new tax it wanted to impose on pork, but the price of the article has already increased, and no step has been taken by the authorities to check this abuse.

The repair of the Praya Grande, damaged in the late typhoon, has not yet been commenced. Perhaps it will be allowed to remain in ruins like the San Domingos market, to which nothing has been done since the great fire of about four years ago and no one knows when the Leal Senado will begin to think about rebuilding it. It is scandalous that in a civilised city a public market should be allowed to remain in ruins for almost four years, with the market people exposing their goods for sale in one of the adjoining streets, thus obstructing the thoroughfare and rendering it impassable. The San Domingos market is the only important market in the place. It would be better for the Leal Senado, if it cannot itself undertake the work of rebuilding it, to let it out by contract for a term of years on condition that the contractor should erect the necessary buildings, the whole ground and buildings to revert to the Leal Senado on effluxion of the time agreed upon. But no; nothing is done, and the whole thing is allowed to pass as in a dream.

At the meeting of the Leal Senado held on the 4th ultimo it was said that by imposing the proposed tax on pork they would be able to raise money enough to repair the Praya Grande and also to gradually carry out the plan of the Engineer Loureiro for the improvement of the harbour. It would be better for the Leal Senado to look after the things that must be done at once than to think of slowly carrying out the plan of Engineer Loureiro, for if that has to be carried out at all the Government must do it. As the proverb says, who wants to do many things will do nothing. If the new tax is sanctioned the Leal Senado should first of all attend to those things under their immediate charge, many of which are in a very bad state. Before taking up new ideas and increased responsibilities they should see to the better cleaning and lighting of the streets, the rebuilding of San Domingos market, the better draining of the city, etc.

CANTON NOTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

Rumour has been current in Canton to the effect that a Chinese gunboat which was despatched to the prefecture of Lim-chow with a civil officer and his family and servants, consisting of about thirty persons, foundered during the late typhoon on the 29th ultimo near Yam-chow. A telegram has been sent from Canton to Lim-chow to make inquiries, but no reply has been received as yet. It is feared that the gunboat has been totally lost and that all on board have been drowned.

Every indication exists that silk this year will be very dear, for most of the mulberry trees in Sai-chiu district, where the silk-worm cultivation is chiefly carried on, have been damaged by insects, which the farmers tried to catch, but as the insects were so numerous, human hands could do very little. In addition to this, a great number of mulberry trees were destroyed by the late typhoon.

The flower-boats have been driven away by the Government and their anchorages are now uncertain. The cause is that a Ku-jen, a man bearing a title of the second degree, who was invited some days ago by some friends to the flower-boats to partake of a feast, was drowned. The friends of the deceased have petitioned the Government to the effect that the death of the Ku-jen was caused by the existence of the flower-boats, which obstructed the fairway.

The typhoon of the 29th ultimo was severely felt at Ha-sa, in Heungshan district. About seventy houses were destroyed. About fifty persons working in the fields were drowned owing to a sudden rise of the tide.

Owing to the late typhoon and the heavy rain the rivers in Hankshan district were flooded and some dykes were broken. Over one thousand houses were washed away and about sixty persons were drowned.

On the 12th inst. fourteen criminals from the Nam-hoi prison and nine from the Pun-u prison were carried in baskets to the Tin-tsz-mat-tau for decapitation. They were all notorious robbers.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The steamer *Inverlay* has been purchased by the Nippon Shosen Kaisha, of Tokyo, and re-named the *Bushiu-maru*.

The Kintoan light vessel was, at date of our latest Shanghai advices, out of position in consequence of collision, but it was not known with what ship.

The *Mercury* says:—We hear H.E. Chang Chih-tung is going to extend his cotton mill enterprise to Shanghai; another mill will be established here in conjunction with the Hupeh concern.

A San Francisco paper of 21st July says:—The *Doric*, which sails for China to-day, will take the largest cargo of flour ever shipped out of a Pacific Coast port—3,500 tons. Most of it goes to China.

The Mexican cruiser *Zaragoza* arrived at Yokohama on the 2nd August. She is making a tour of the world. She is commanded by Admiral Monasterio and has a large number of naval cadets on board.

The Customs cruiser *Dolphin*, which was at sea in the same storm that the *Iltis* was lost in and regarding which some uneasiness was felt, returned to Chefoo all safe and sound and no worse for her experiences.

The crop of native opium in Northern Anhwei is a very bad one this year, both as regards quantity and quality. The total output is estimated at about one-half of last year's production and the quality is much inferior.—*Mercury*.

The new war-ships *Fujiyama* and *Yashima* are expected to arrive in Japan not later than April next. The officers and men commissioned to bring out the *Yashima* from England were to leave Yokohama by the *Ryojun-maru* on the 7th August.

The N.Y.K. *Toyoshima-maru* recently sank a small Chinese vessel in Vladivostok harbour and caused the loss of three lives. The Russian Admiralty Court has ordered the Company to pay 20,000 roubles to the families of each of those drowned.—*Nagasaki Express*.

The typhoon of which we felt the influence here on the 9th August reached Tonkin on the 10th and blew with great violence, considerable damage being done at Hanoi. The electric light wires were broken and the streets were left in darkness in the evening.

In the Fleet Regatta at Hakodate we understand that the *Undaunted* captured most of the first prizes, while the *Pique's* galley also did well, proving a surprise to the Fleet. The events for All Comers were as usual won by the Admiral's boat (*Centurion*).—*Japan Gazette*.

We regret to learn from the N. C. *Daily News* that Captain McEuen, who left Shanghai on the 25th of July by the *Empress of Japan* on sick leave, was so much worse when the vessel reached Yokohama that he had to be left behind there, and was taken to the hospital.

We (*Peking and Tientsin Times*) hear that the Railway Company contemplate laying a double line of rails between Tongku and Tientsin at an early date. The passenger and goods traffic is increasing to such an extent that this accommodation will not come any too soon.

The materials for the railway to Peking are beginning to arrive at Taku, and there are now two ships from America with Oregon timber, one ship with cement and locomotives, and a large steamer with rails. Until the close of the year there should be constant arrivals at the Bar of large vessels containing rails, bridge work, &c.—*Peking and Tientsin Times*.

A report from the civil officials in Formosa on the recent risings of the rebels in the vicinity of Unrin state, according to a Tokyo press despatch, that when the rebels advanced some of the soldiers were dismayed and took to their heels without exchanging a shot. The Government proposes to institute an inquiry by court martial into this alleged cowardly conduct.

A Tokyo press despatch of the 7th August says:—The authorities of the Governor-General's office of Formosa will shortly issue Regulations relating to the opium trade in Formosa, under which persons selling opium without first obtaining a licence, and those who shall sell opium or pipes, &c., for the smoking of opium to persons having no medical certificate, or shall lend a room for smoking to such persons, shall be subjected to heavy punishment.

The *Japan Gazette* says:—Mr. Oshima, Superintending Engineer of the Iron Foundry, and two experts will be shortly despatched to America and Europe on a tour of official inspection. They are first to go to America and then to England, Germany, France and other European countries, where they will make thorough inspections of iron foundries. They are also entrusted with the purchase of necessary machinery for the Japanese Foundry and their journey is expected to take about twelve months.

The high provincial authorities of Kwantung and Fukien have recently been very active in arresting counterfeiters of Mexican dollars and Chinese decimal coins. Over a dozen were lately arrested near Canton with their plant and dies—some made abroad—and will probably be summarily dealt with. Five of the same class were arrested near Amoy by the military police. This last arrest is said to have been made at the instance of the Netherlands and Spanish Ministers at Peking, who complained of the large quantities of counterfeit dollars brought into circulation in Java and the Philippine Islands by Chinese from Amoy.—*N. C. Daily News*.

Among the passengers who arrived on the steamer *China*, says the *San Francisco Chronicle*, is Arthur J. Mundy, manager of the J. B. Millet Publishing Company of Boston, who has been in Japan for some time past, arranging for the publication of a new illustrated work on Japan. The work is to be entirely by Japanese writers and artists, and will be edited by Captain F. Brinkley, editor of the *Japan Mail*. The first edition will be sold by subscription, and will be limited to fifty sets of ten volumes each at \$500 a volume, or \$5,000 a set. Each volume is to be illustrated with 250 large coloured photographs and many original paintings on silk, which will be embellished with lacquer work and lace embroidery. Mr. Mundy says the work will be the most elaborate and artistic publication of the kind ever issued.

During a recent partisan fight between potters belonging to different kilns in the celebrated porcelain districts of Kiangsi, two officers and four soldiers, belonging to the local military police battalion, were killed by the rioters. When the military police, in obedience to the orders of the district magistrate, appeared on the scene of the fight to put a stop to the disturbance, the rival partisans, although they had in the meanwhile succeeded in killing ten of their own number, joined hands to resist the troops, who, being in the minority, retreated from the contest with the casualties noted above. The porcelain works of this district, which are near the south end of the Poyang Lake, employ nearly 10,000 potters.—*N. C. Daily News*.

It is reported amongst the Chinese in Soochow that a Japanese Steam Launch Company has been organised to run between Shanghai and the new Treaty ports of Soochow and Hangchow and that the permission of the Tsungli Yamèn has also been obtained in the matter; steam launch licences to be issued by the I.M. Customs of Shanghai. The new Company's steam launches are to come from Japan and will number twelve. Another despatch reports the destruction by fire on the 8th instant of one of the largest brick kilns of the city situated outside the Feng gate, Soochow. The brick company in question had contracted to supply nearly half a million bricks for the new foreign settlements, and this conflagration will doubtless retard building operations there for a while.—*N. C. Daily News*.

The *San Francisco Chronicle* of the 21st July says:—The Pacific mail steamship *China* arrived early yesterday morning a day ahead of her time, breaking the record from Hongkong, Yokohama, and Honolulu. She left Hongkong June 25th, Yokohama July 4th, and Honolulu July 13th. Her time was:—From Hongkong 24 days, 7 hours, and 6 minutes; from Yokohama, 15 days, 15 hours, and 29 minutes; from Honolulu, 5 days, 11 hours, and 11 minutes. The time from Honolulu breaks her own record made on her last trip, but one by nearly three hours. The time made on this trip created a sensation in marine and shipping circles, and Captain Seabury received many congratulations. The time from Honolulu is pretty nearly equal to the performances of the best transatlantic liners.

The *Japan Gazette* translates the following from the *Jiji*:—The greater portion of the task of Treaty Revision is now completed. The new treaties with Great Britain, Germany, Russia, Italy, Denmark, Belgium, and the United States have been signed or ratified, and those with France and the Netherlands are expected to be signed shortly. The only Powers with which new treaties have not yet been concluded are Austria, Switzerland, Spain, and Portugal. In Austria, Minister Takahira is conducting the negotiations without meeting with any difficulty. As to Switzerland, Spain, and Portugal, negotiations have not yet been opened, but will soon commence and may be concluded before the end of the year. As the new tariff is enforceable immediately on the revision of the treaties with all the Treaty Powers, the authorities are said to be in a great hurry now.

The *Kobe Chronicle* says:—A vernacular contemporary learns that the P. & O. Company have applied to the Japanese Government for permission to open a steamship service between Kobe, Nagasaki, Kelung, and Hongkong, but the Japanese authorities thought it inexpedient to leave the service in question to a foreign company, and declined the application. Under the circumstances, the Japanese Government is prepared to urge Japanese shipowners to open the navigation to the island without further delay. This is just what we consider a suicidal policy on the part of the Japanese Government. They should encourage trade of every sort in Formosa, instead of stifling it because Japanese are not able to take the lead. As a matter of fact, we cannot see what permission can be needed for any foreign company to go to Kelung, which is a Treaty port and must remain so; the story is probably untrue, but it indicates what the Japanese think. The Government is resolved to carry out expensive schemes for developing Formosa, even by issuing loan bonds, if necessary, but they could do much better by removing restrictions.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	1896-97 lbs.	1895-96 lbs.
Canton and Macao	2,311,591	3,350,509
Shanghai and Hankow	12,742,590	12,975,009
Foochow	5,976,756	7,509,809
	21,069,537	23,835,327

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1896-97 lbs.	1895-96 lbs.
Shanghai	2,089,241	10,364,488
Amoy	3,099,777	5,023,581
Foochow	1,131,222	1,608,212
	7,220,240	16,996,281

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.

	1896-97 lbs.	1895-96 lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow	13,613,398	26,706,212

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1896-97 lbs.	1895-96 lbs.
Yokohama	12,567,287	19,776,559
Kobe	6,707,867	11,130,509
	19,275,154	29,907,068

SILK.

SHANGHAI, 13th August.—(From Mr. A. R. Burkill's circular)—London advices to 11th current quote Gold Killing 8 1/4, Blue Elephants 10 1/4, and a quiet market. Raw Silk.—There has been a little more life in this market during the past day or two; a fall in exchange has brought in a few more buyers, but the tone of home advices does not improve. Treaties.—Some 350/400 bales have been settled. Tayasams.—Fully 100 bales have been bought; prices for all Coarse Silk are very firm. Yellow. Silk.—About 50 bales have changed hands; arrivals very moderate. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns from 6th to 12th August, are 914 bales White, 249 piculs Yellow, and 16 piculs Wild Silk. The export of Steam Filatures to date is:—To London 2 bales, Continent 388 bales, and America 127 bales. Waste Silk.—No business. Pongees.—No business.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1896-97 bales.	1895-96 bales.
Canton	6,253	3,474
Shanghai	6,018	14,473
Yokohama	109	1,262
	12,440	19,209

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1896-97 bales.	1895-96 bales.
Canton	492	2,907
Shanghai	266	2,438
Yokohama	151	2,473
	909	7,818

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 18th August.—There is no change to report in the position of this market. Quotations for Formosa are \$48.00 to \$49.50. During the past week sales have been 100 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 18th August.—A further improvement in the market has to be reported and prices are still advancing. Following are the quotations:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White...	\$7.25 to 7.25	per picul.
do. " 2, White...	6.56 to 6.59	"
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown...	4.50 to 4.52	"
do. " 2, Brown...	4.32 to 4.34	"
Swatow, No. 1, White...	7.15 to 7.18	"
do. " 2, White...	6.50 to 6.52	"
Swatow, No. 1, Brown...	4.44 to 4.46	"
do. " 2, Brown...	4.30 to 4.33	"
Soochow Sugar Candy	10.75 to 10.80	"
Shekloong	9.34 to 9.37	"

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

The steamer *Sunda*, Hongkong to Buenos Ayres. 7th August, took:—300 packages Tea; for Glasgow—1 case Cigars; for London—375 bales Wask Silk, 22 cases Blackwoodware, 39 cases Bambooware, 5 cases Aniseed Oil, 4 cases Curios, 17 cases Pearl Shells, 100 bales Canes, 1 case Silk Piece Goods, 1 case Feathers, 1 package Cigars, 3 packages Rattanware, 20 cases Chinaware, 300 packages Tea in Transit, 5,179 boxes Tea (8,610 lbs. Congou, 100,149 lbs Scented Caper).

The steamer *Orestes*, Hongkong to London, 8th August took:—1,158 boxes Tea (87,318 lbs. Scented Caper), 100 casks Soy, 25 casks Preserves, 130 casks Palmleaf-fans, 11 cases Chinaware, 117 packages Sundries; for London and/or Manchester.—50 bales Waste Silk; for Liverpool:—16 packages Sundries; for Glasgow—4 cases Blackwoodware; for Buenos Ayres.—150 packages Tea.

The steamer *Mirzapore*, Hongkong to London, 13th August, took:—350 bales Wask Silk, 90 bales Raw Silk, 22 cases Silk Piece Goods, 2 cases China Ink, 250 rolls Mats and Matting, 61 bales Rattan, 540 boxes Tea (11,343 lbs. Congou); for Manchester—100 bales Waste Silk; for Gibraltar.—14 cases Chinaware, 2 cases Curios; for France.—630 bales Raw Silk, 299 packages Tea, from Foochow.

The steamer *Maria Rickmers*, Hongkong to Barcelona, 13th August, took:—24 bales Canes; for Marseilles.—7 packages Hair, 34 rolls Matting, 50 bales Silk, 100 bales Canes; for Havre.—4 bales Teasticks, 5 cases Feathers, 7 cases Blackwoodware, 11 cases Chinaware, 12 cases Bristles, 60 cases Sundries, 77 bales Canes; for Hamburg:—5 cases Nut Oil, 7 cases Chinaware, 10 cases Camphor-wood Trunks, 41 rolls Mats, 72 bales Rattan Shavings, 125 cases Bristles, 250 cases Cassia Ligna, 271 bales Canes, 802 bales Feathers, and 2,000 bags Charcoal.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 18th August.—Bengal.—The market has ruled steady and prices have continued much the same as last reported. Quotations close at \$717 1/4 for New Patna, \$720 for Old Patna, and \$735 for New Benares.

Malwa.—New has continued out of favour whilst Old has been dealt in to a fair extent. Prices are unchanged, the following being the latest figures:—

New	\$730 with all'ance of 3 1/4 to 5 cts.
Old (2 1/2 yrs.)	\$750 " 0 to 3 "
Old (7/10 yrs.)	\$770 " 1/4 to 2 "

Persian.—There has not been any change in quotations, the market closing rather dull at \$550 to \$590 for Oily and at \$560 to \$640 for Paper-wrapped. To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—

New Patna	2,000 chests.
Old Patna	170 "
New Benares	150 "
Old Benares	10 "
Malwa	200 "
Persian	70 "

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1896.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Aug. 13	717 1/4	722 1/4	733 1/4	—	730	750/770
Aug. 14	715	720	730	—	730	750/770
Aug. 15	720	722 1/4	735	—	730	750/770
Aug. 16	720	722 1/4	735	—	730	750/770
Aug. 17	717 1/4	722 1/4	732 1/4	—	730	750/770
Aug. 18	717 1/4	720	735	—	730	750/770

RICE.

HONGKONG, 18th August.—Arrivals are small and prices are advancing. Closing quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.25 to 2.27	per picul.
" Round, good quality	2.52 to 2.54	"
" Long	2.65 to 2.68	"
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2	2.30 to 2.32	"
" Garden, " No. 1	2.75 to 2.78	"
" White	2.95 to 2.98	"
" Fine Cargo	2.32 to 2.35	"

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 18th August.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—*Bombay Yarn*.—20 bales No. 6 at \$66.50, 34 1/2 bales No. 10 at \$72.25 to \$76.40 bales No. 16 at \$87.32 1/2 bales No. 20 at \$81.50 to \$93.50. *Grey Shirtings*.—500 pieces 10 lbs. Mandarin at \$2.65, 2,800 pieces 7 lbs. Large Eagle at \$1.85, 2,250 pieces 10 lbs. Blue 5 Men at \$3.75, 6,000 pieces 8 1/4 lbs. Blue Joss B at \$2.85, 300 pieces 8 1/4 lbs. Red Joss, 900 pieces 8 1/4 lbs. 3 Dozs at \$2.97 1/4, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Blue 7 Boys at \$3.80, 570 pieces 10 lbs. Flower Vase at \$3.85, 4,200 pieces 8 1/4 lbs. Red Boys at 2.47 1/4, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Horse and Gun at \$3.35, 1,250 pieces Chang Way at \$3.85, 600 pieces 8 1/4 lbs. 2 Fish at \$2.67 1/4, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Red 5 Men at \$3.10, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Blue 7 Boys at \$3.15, 370 pieces 8 1/4 lbs. Lion and Arrow at \$2.70, 390 pieces 8 1/4 lbs. Blue Urn at \$2.65. *White Shirtings*.—3,000 pieces No. 600 at \$4.15, 4,500 pieces S. Q. at \$4.15, 2,000 pieces Flower Chop at \$4.65, 500 pieces No. 3 at \$3.30, 500 pieces Gold Elephant at \$3.60, 500 pieces S. S. at \$4.35, 2,500 pieces D. 70 at \$3.40, 1,000 pieces No. 300 at \$3.42 1/4, 2,000 pieces Gold Joss at \$3.15, 500 pieces No. 500 at \$5.10, 5 00 pieces Gold Dragon at \$5.20, 1,350 pieces 48 Reed at \$2.12 1/4, 500 pieces S. T. at \$4.20, 500 pieces Man and Lion at \$4.30, 1,000 pieces Green Stag at \$3.35, 500 pieces S. S. at \$4.40, 500 pieces Gold Goose at \$4.10, 500 pieces Flower at \$4.70, 300 pieces Blue Lion at \$5.65, 2,000 pieces Blue Dragon at \$4.97 1/4, 250 pieces A. A. A. at \$5.40, 500 pieces 48 Reed at \$2.17 1/4, 1,000 pieces 1 at \$2.90, 500 pieces Man and Lion at \$4.32 1/4, 500 pieces Soldier at \$2.45, 750 pieces K. K. at \$3.87 1/4, 600 pieces No. 1,000 at \$3.65, 500 pieces X. 6 at \$3.5, 1,000 pieces No. 600 at \$4.17 1/4 to \$4.20, 500 pieces Gold Joss at \$3.15, 500 pieces Gold Dragon at \$5.20, 500 pieces O. at \$4.25 1/4, T. Cloths.—1,500 7 lbs. Mexican Silver Pheasant at \$1.75, 2,250 pieces 7 lbs. Gold Dragon at \$2.20, 750 pieces 7 lbs. Blue Dragon B. B. at \$2.22, 1,120 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Shoemaker at \$2, 600 pieces 8 lbs. Mexican Hunter and Stag C. C. at \$3.370 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Red Stag at \$2.30, 1,200 pieces 8 lbs. Mexican Red Stag at \$2.70, 1,500 pieces 8 lbs. Mexican Gold Dragon at \$2.60, 750 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Dragon Head at 2.15, 1,000 pieces 6 lbs. Bombay at \$1.57 1/4. *Drills*.—500 pieces 15 lbs. D. 9 Sword at \$4.15, 300 pieces 14 lbs. Peacock at \$3.70. *Camlets*.—200 pieces 5 Cocks assorted at 513.25.

METALS:—Tin.—100 slabs Foongchai at \$33. Quicksilver.—150 flasks at \$101.50.

COTTON YARN.

	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20	\$67.00 to \$95.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24	100.00 to 105.00
" 22 to 24	103.00 to 108.00
" 28 to 32	114.00 to 119.00
" 38 to 42	118.00 to 126.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	per piece
Grey Shirtings—6lbs.	1.40 to 1.55
7lbs.	1.75 to 1.95
8 1/4 lbs.	2.00 to 3.00
9 to 10 lbs.	3.20 to 4.00
White Shirtings—5 1/4 to 5 1/2 rd.	2.15 to 2.35
5 1/2 to 60 "	2.50 to 3.10
64 to 66 "	3.00 to 3.50
Fine "	3.90 to 6.90
Book-folds.	3.20 to 5.40
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ...	0.60 to 1.25
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y.	1.40 to 1.55
7lbs. (32 ")	1.80 to 2.95
6lbs. (32 ") Mexs.	1.60 to 1.75
7lbs. (32 ")	2.15 to 2.40
8 to 8 1/4 lbs. (36 in)	2.35 to 3.05
Drills, English—40 yds, 13 1/2 to 14 1/2 lbs.	3.20 to 4.30

FANCY COTTONS

Turkey Red Shirtings—1 1/4 to 5 1/4 lbs.	1.20 to 3.50
Brocades—Dyed	3.75 to 4.50
per yard	
Damasks	0.12 to 0.15
Chintzes—Assorted	0.07 to 0.10
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.21 to 0.28
Velveteens—18 in.	0.16 to 0.20

per dozen

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.40 to 0.85

WOOLLENS

	per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.	0.55 to 0.95
Gorman	1.00 to 1.15
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths.	1.25 to 3.50
per piece	
Long Ells—Scarlet	6.50 to 8.00
Assorted	6.60 to 8.10
Camlets—Assorted	18.00 to 27.00
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches, Assorted	10.00 to 18.00
Orleans—Plain	3.00 to 3.60
per pair	
Blankets—8 to 12lbs.	4.80 to 18.40

METALS

	per picul	
Iron—Nail Rod	3.15 to	—
Square, Flat Round Bar ...	— to	—
Swedish Bar	— to	—
Small Round Rod	— to	—
Hoop	— to	—
Old Wire Rope	— to	—
Lead, Australian	5.65 to	—
Yellow Metal—Muntz, 14/23 oz.	27.00 to	—
Vivian's, 16/32 oz.	26.50 to	—
Elliot's, 16/28 oz.	26.50 to	—
Japan Copper, Slabs	— to	—
Tin	— to	—

	per box	
Tin-Plates	5.10 to	—
	per cwt. case	
Steel	4.30 to	—

SUNDRIES

	per picul	
Quicksilver	100.00 to	—
	per box	
Window Glass	3.50 to	—
	per 10-gal. case	
Kerosene Oil	1.9 to 1.92	—

SHANGHAI, 13th August.—(From Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade report.)—There are few sales to chronicle this week, but nevertheless the period under review has been of some interest to those in the trade, as the position has now become peculiar. The excitement ruling on the Manchester and Liverpool markets, as advised in our last, has become more pronounced, and while it has made much too sudden an appearance to suit importers it has certainly made buyers begin to think about laying in their Spring supplies, which they thought, until recently, would easily be obtained under the price ruling during the past six weeks. It is as difficult as ever from the particulars to hand to assign any reason for this unexpected rise in Cotton, but the fears of a drought to the new crop and the probable short supply of available cotton in Liverpool during the next three months appear to be the chief causes of the movement. There is no doubt that the Chinese leaders have been startled by the sudden change in the position of things and their situation is rendered all the more annoying by the appearance of an unwelcome drop in Exchange. There is little doubt had the latter factor been out of the way some business would have been done during the week for delivery next spring. News from the Outports is much better and it is admitted that fresh orders, especially for English Drills, have been received from the Northern markets, but these, so far, have been filled from the native holders here, the few enquiries that have been made to Importers resulting in offers that had to be refused. From Szechuan advices are also much better, 8-4 lbs. Grey Shirtings being specially asked for from this quarter. There is no change to report in any of the other Outports. Both the New York and Manchester markets are higher and it is difficult to get the refusal of firm offers in hand for any lengthened period, but it is probable that matters may be adjusted sooner than expected, as the market here is in a very sound condition and dealers, as indicated above, are more inclined to buy than to wait much longer. The latest quotation for Cotton is 1½d. It has been reported during the week that the Chinese Government will endeavour to charge 10 per cent. ad valorem duty on all goods manufactured in China by machinery. This rumour comes from Chinese sources and emanates no doubt from Li Hung-chang's present visit to England, one of the objects of which is to submit a scheme for an increased tariff on imports. In the event of a reciprocal concession by the Chinese Government in abolishing Likin and Transit taxes the scheme should benefit trade and those conditions should be strongly enforced by those in charge should a Treaty be arranged.

Metals—(From Messrs. Alex. Bieffeld & Co.'s report.—14th August.)—The general tone is dull, and importers in all lines are complaining sorely of the slackness of trade. Dealers make their daily rounds of enquiry, but purchases are very few and far between. Metals receive almost no attention. Lead.—Austrian has been sold at Tls. 5.00 ex godown, and L.B. is quoted at Tls. 5.15 with out sales resulting. Nailrods continue to receive no attention. Importers report lower rates and a tendency downward at home. The Hanyang Rods and Bars have been placed with a native iron merchant to sell on behalf of the ironworks. Iron Wire has advanced and a further rise may be expected. Wire Nails.—Quotations continue firm at about Tls. 3.50 to Tls. 3.55 for No 6/16, assorted, but local stocks are to be had

at Tls. 3.45. Cop. or Sheathing.—60 cases, 14 oz. an l up, have been sold from stock at Tls. 21.20. Galvanised Iron.—The demand for roofing continues, but rates here have not yet reached the level attained at home, where a sharp rise has been established. No sales are reported at present.

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 18th August.—Business has been fairly active during the week under review, although, beyond a sudden demand for and scarcity of Hongkong and Shanghai Banks we have nothing of any importance to chronicle.

BANKS—Hongkong and Shanghai after ruling quiet during the early part of the week at 191 per cent. prem., at which a fair number changed hands, on the eve of the general meeting held on the 16th inst. suddenly came into strong demand and no shares were obtainable, even at an advance of 2 per cent. One small parcel is reported to have changed hands at 193 per cent. prem. for the end of the month, but outside this we have heard of no sales and at time of writing, although buyers are willing to operate, sellers hang back and shares are very difficult to obtain except at an advance. Market closes at 184½ ex div. At the general meeting of shareholders held on the 16th inst. the Chairman in his speech stated that the profit on the issue of the last Chinese loan was not included in the profit and loss account but would appear in future balance sheets; also that a profit of £25,582 on a partial realization of Consols would be dealt with during the present half year. The speech, which contained much other interesting information, may be found in extenso in the local papers of the 16th and 18th inst. Nationals continue neglected with sellers and no sales at 82½.

MARINE INSURANCES—China Traders' have ruled much quieter, offers to sell at 880½ meeting with no response. Unions, Cantons, and the Northern Insurance Stocks continue very quiet and beyond a few small sales of the latter at quotations we have nothing to report.

FIRE INSURANCES—Hongkings have again gone back to 332½ after small sales at that, 331, and 333; at the last rate (331) a fair number have changed hands and a small sale is reported at 330; market at time of closing has recovered to 332½. China Fires have continued more or less neglected, 895 failing to find buyers.

SHIPPING—Hongkong, Canton, and Macao have remained steady and unchanged at 33½ buyers and 33½ sellers; small sales at both rates have taken place, but at time of closing sellers at 33½ rule the market. Indo-Chinas with the market flooded with shares from Shanghai have further declined to 549, at which rate after sales shares are still obtainable. In the early part of the week a few shares changed hands at 550. Douglasses have been negotiated in unimportant lots at 64½ and 66½, closing steady at the latter rate. China and Manilas have been enquired for at 870 and 871, but sellers refuse to part under 872, at which rate they close steady. China Mutuals continue out of the market.

REFINERIES—China Sugars have further improved with sales at 1110, 1111, and 1111; at time of writing shares are in some small demand for the settlement on the 31st at 1111½. Luzons have weakened to 665 without business.

MINING—A few Punjoms have changed hands at 14.25 and 14.50. The Cyanide plant is now again in working order and results may be expected about the 10th September. The directors have decided to order ten new stampers, which will be paid for out of profits and should, when working materially increase the gains. New Balmorals and Olivers have remained neglected and we have heard of no sales; notice has been issued to shareholders in the former Company of a meeting to be held on the 1st September, at which it will be proposed that the general management passes from Mr. G. R. Stevens to Messrs. J. D. Humphreys & Son, and that several articles of association be altered and eliminated. Raubs are still in request at 55.25, but no shares seem obtainable under 55.50 and we have heard of no sales.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have continued to

rule dull with shares offering for settlement on 31st and for months further ahead, sales have been effected at 193½ and 193, cash and end of the month in small lots and at 203 per cent. prem. for February. We understand the Docks are full of good work, but the—some holders—disappointment at the failure of the negotiations for the new Admiralty dock has had the effect of weakening the stock to a slight degree. Kowloon Wharves during the early part of the week ruled very dull and changed hands at 554; towards the close, however, a demand setting in the rate rose with a fair number of sales to 554½, 555, and 555½, at which latter rate shares are still in demand. Wanchais have also been enquired for and rule firm at 545.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS—Hongkong Lands have continued very steady at 775 and 774½ with sales. Hotels after further small sales at 330 close with buyers at 329 and sellers at 330. The Company's report for half year shows a profit of \$22,024, all of which (except \$25.60 carried forward) the directors propose to write off furniture account. West Points could be placed at 18, but we have heard of no sales. Humphreys have again changed hands in fair lots at 89.

MISCELLANEOUS—Green Islands have been in some demand and have changed hands at 17 and 17½; more are wanted, but are unobtainable at the rate. A. S. Watsons have found small buyers at 12.75 and more could be placed; at the rate of 13, however, a fair number of shares are obtainable. Electrics have changed hands at 6.85 and 6.90, Ropes at 125, and Fenwicks at 28. Ewo Cotton Mills are on offer in small lots at Tls. 85.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		[\$365.62½, & sel. 184½, pr. ex. d. =
Hongkong & Shanghai...	\$125	nominal
China & Japan, prf.	25	nominal
Do. ordinary...	£1 10s	nominal
Do. deferred...	21	£2, buyers
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	£8	\$28, sellers
Founders Shares...	£1	\$100
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	15s	nominal
Brown & Co., H. G.	\$50	\$6, seller
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$6
Carmichael & Co.	\$20	\$3
China Sugar	\$100	\$111½, sal. & buyers
Dakin, Cruick's & Co.	\$5	\$1, buyers
Dairy Farm Co.	\$10	\$5
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$28, sales & buyers
Green Island Cement....	\$10	\$17½, sales
H. & China Bakery ...	\$50	\$30
Hongkong & C. Gas ...	£10	\$110, buyers
Hongkong Electric ...	\$8	\$6.95, buyers
H. H. L. Tramways ...	\$100	\$96
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$29, buyers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$105½, sales
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$56, sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$125
H. & W. Dock	\$125	193 p. ct. prem. =
Insurances—		[\$336.25, sales
Canton	\$50	\$200, sellers
China Fire	\$50	\$95, sales & sellers
China Traders'	\$25	\$80½, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$32½, buyers
North-China	£25	11s. 192½, sellers
Straits	\$20	\$27, sellers
Union	\$25	\$232½, sellers
Yangtze	\$60	\$145
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment.	\$50	\$74½, sales
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$9, sales & sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$18, buyers
West Point Building	\$40	\$18
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$65, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 500	72½
Jebeu	\$5	\$2.90
New Balmoral	\$3	\$2.50, sellers
Oliver's Mines, A.	\$5	\$7, sellers
Do. B.	\$2½	\$3.50, sellers
Punjom	\$4	\$14.25, sal. & buyers
Do. Preference...	\$1	\$3.70
Raubs	13s. 10d.	\$5.35
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila ...	\$50	\$71, buyers
China Mutual Ord...	£5	£3, sellers
Do. Preference...	£10	£8.10, sales & sellers
Douglas S. S. Co. ...	\$50	\$65, sales & buyers
H., Canton and M.	\$15	\$38.25, sellers
Indo-China S. N.	£10	\$49, sales
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37½	\$45, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$12.75, sal. & buyers

CHATER & VERNON, Share Brokers.

SHANGHAI, 14th August.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s report.)—The market has been more active during the week, and a number of Hongkong and Shanghai Bank shares have been placed, chiefly to Hongkong. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Shares were sold to Hongkong on the 7th at 193½ per cent. premium, on the 8th at 192, and on the 11th at 191 per cent. premium. A cash sale was made yesterday at 191 per cent. premium, but the market is weak with sellers. No business is reported in Bank of China and Japan shares. Shipping.—Indo-China S. N. Co.—Shares were placed to Hongkong early in the week at \$50 and \$50½, supplying the demand there. Since then shares have been placed locally at Tls. 37 cash and Tls. 39½ for the 30th November. The market is steady at the close with sellers. Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat shares changed hands locally at \$33. Docks.—Boyd & Co. shares have been placed at Tls. 197½ and Tls. 200, and are offering at the latter price. S. C. Farham & Co. shares were sold at Tls. 205 and Tls. 204 for cash, and Tls. 204 for the 31st current. Marine Insurance.—China Traders' shares have been in demand at \$80½, but no business is reported. North China have been placed at Tls. 192½. Yangtzes have been sold, for delivery on the 31st current, at \$142½. A sale of Cantons is reported at \$193. Straits have been placed at \$27½. Fire Insurance.—Hongkong were placed to Hongkong at \$330 and are wanted. China changed hands at \$14, and were afterwards purchased from Hongkong at \$95. They have since changed hands locally at \$95. Wharves.—Shanghai and Hongkong Wharf Co.—An interim dividend of 3 per cent. has been declared, payable on the 20th current. Shares are wanted at Tls. 122½ cum div., and held for Tls. 125. Tugs.—Taku Tug & Lighter shares were sold at Tls. 105. Sugars.—Perak Sugar Cultivation shares were placed at Tls. 4½ cash, and for delivery on the 31st of October at Tls. 43½. China Sugar Refining shares changed hands locally at \$106½ to \$110 for cash, and \$109 to \$109½ for the 31st current, and were sold to Hongkong at \$108 and \$108½. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment shares, fully paid up, were sold at Tls. 78 and Tls. 80. Industrial.—Ewo Cotton S. & W. shares changed hands at Tls. 85, and are offering. There are sellers of shares in the International and the Laou-kung-mow Mills. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai Gas shares have changed hands at Tls. 206, and half shares at Tls. 103. Shanghai-Sunatna Tobacco shares have been sold at Tls. 97. Shanghai Langkat Tobacco shares at Tls. 600, cum right to the new issue, Shanghai Horse Bazaar shares at Tls. 67, and Hall & Holtz shares at \$37 and \$37½. Quotations are:—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—\$363½. National Bank of China, Ltd.—\$28. National Bank of China, Ltd., Founders.—\$115. Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited, pref. shares.—Nominal. Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited, ordinary shares.—Nominal. Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited, deferred shares.—22. Indo-China Steam N. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 37. China-Mutual Steam Nav. Co. pref. shares.—\$85.00. China-Mutual Steam Nav. Co. ord. shares.—\$31.80. Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co.—\$33. Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.—\$64. Boyd & Co., Ltd., Founders.—Tls. Nominal. Boyd & Co., Limited.—Tls. 200. S. C. Farham & Co.—Tls. 204. Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.—\$365. China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$80½. North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—Tls. 192½. Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.—\$35. Yangtze Insco. Assn., Ltd.—\$142½. Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.—\$193. Straits Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$27½. Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$328½. China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$95. Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Tls. 122½. Birt's Wharf Hideskining and Wool-cleaning Company.—Tls. 55. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited.—\$54. Sheridan Consolidated Mining and Milling Company, Limited.—Tls. 34. Punjom Mining Co., Ltd.—\$14. Punjom Mining Co., Ltd., pref. shares.—\$3.90. Jebeu Mining & Trading Co., Ltd.—\$3. Raub Australian Gold Min. Co., Ltd.—\$54. Shanghai Tugboat Co., Ltd.—Tls. 215. Taku Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd.—Tls. 105. Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 195. Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 100. Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.—Tls. 43.

China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$110. Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$65½. Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd. (fully paid).—Tls. 80. Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd. (Tls. 30 paid).—Tls. 53. Hongkong Land Invest. & A. Co., Ltd.—\$73½. Kowloon Land & Building Co., Ltd.—\$18½. Humphreys Estate and Finance Co., Ltd.—\$9½. Major Brothers, Limited.—Tls. 42½. Ewo Cotton Spinning & W. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 85. International Cotton Man. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 97½. Laou-kung-mow Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd.—Tls. 100. Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Co., Ltd.—Tls. 400. Shanghai Ice Company.—Tls. 155. Shanghai Gas Co.—Tls. 206. Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.—Tls. 251. Shanghai Sunatna Tobacco Co.—Tls. 97. Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd.—Tls. 600. Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd., Founders.—Nominal. Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.—Tls. 65. J. Llewellyn & Co., Limited.—\$45. Hall & Holtz, Ltd.—\$37½. A. S. Watson Co., Limited.—\$12. Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Ltd.—\$8. Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd.—\$7.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

TUESDAY, 18th August.
EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/1½
Bank Bills, on demand	2/1½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	2/1½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2/2
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/2½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/2½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.73
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.77
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	2.21
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	52½
Credits, 60 days' sight	53½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	183
Bank, on demand	183½
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	183
Bank, on demand	183½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	72½
Private, 30 days' sight	73½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	1 % pm
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	16 % pm
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	1 % pm
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	9.10
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	47.00

TONNAGE.

SHANGHAI, 14th August (from Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s report.)—The past fortnight has brought forth no new feature in our freight market either for New York or London, and rates remain unchanged. With the ample supply of tonnage for both ports, and the limited business doing, agents find a good deal of difficulty in filling the space allotted. The Pingsuey market was opened on the evening of the 10th, but up to the time of writing there have been no very large settlements; nearly all these teas are being forwarded by the overland route, Suez boats being neglected. It was not with much surprise that we noticed the advertisement of the Russo-Chinese Bank as their agents here; we believe it is their idea to constitute a regular service between Vladivostok and Batoum for Odessa; the steamers will take their departure from the former port about every three weeks, and will make regular calls at this. The pioneer steamer *Tamboff* arrives to-day and takes a fair quantity of tea, leaving on the 19th inst.; she will probably be followed by the *Saratov*. Our coasting trade is in a terrible state of depression, charters, we understand, have been made from Newchwang to Kobe at eight cents per picul, and rates have further declined to seven cents, while from Nagasaki to Shanghai seventy-five cents per ton has been accepted. Rates of freight are:—London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 35s.; waste silk 40s.; tea 40s.; Northern Continental ports, by Conference Lines, general cargo 35s.; waste silk 40s.; tea 40s.; New York, by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; tea 40s.; New York via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; tea 45s.; Boston, by Conference

Lines, general cargo 45s.; tea 50s.; Philadelphia, by Conference Lines, general cargo 45s.; tea 50s. Above rates are subject to a deferred return, as per Conference circular. London, by German mail, Shell, and Rickmers' Lines, general cargo 31s. 6d. net; Hamburg, by German mail, Shell, and Rickmers' Lines, general cargo 31s. 6d. net; New York, by German mail, Shell, and Rickmers' Lines, general cargo 40s. less 10 per cent.; Havre direct, general cargo 32s. 6d. net.; Genoa, tallow 32s. 6d.; general cargo 22s. 6d. net.; Marseilles, tallow 32s. 6d.; general cargo 32s. 6d. net. 42s. 6d. per ton of 20 cwt. for above three ports. New York, by sail, 20s. nominal; New York by Pacific Lines, 1½ gold cents per lb. Coast rates are:—Mojito to Shanghai 90 cents nominal per ton coal; Nagasaki to Shanghai 90 cents nominal per ton coal.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—*Ravenna* (str.), *Formosa* (str.), *Borneo* (str.), *Nerite* (str.), *Myrmidon* (str.), *Glenesk* (str.).
For MARSEILLES.—*Adour* (str.), *Ellen Rickmers* (str.), *Riojun Maru* (str.).
For VICTORIA.—*Braemar* (str.).
For SAN FRANCISCO.—*Socotra* (str.), *Sutlej* (str.), *Doric* (str.).
For HAVRE.—*Senta* (str.).
For VANCOUVER.—*Empress of India* (str.), *China* (str.).
For NEW YORK.—*Manuel Llagun*, *Charles E. Moody*, *Paul Revere*, *Josephus*.
For PORTLAND.—*Monmouthshire* (str.).
For BALTIMORE.—*Isaac Reed*, *Helen Brewer* (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

August—
ARRIVALS.
13, Haimun, British str., from Amoy.
13, Chingping, Chinese str., from Canton.
13, Shegama Maru, Jap. str., from Shanghai.
13, Doric, British str., from San Francisco.
13, Fooksang, British str., from Shanghai.
13, Isly, French cruiser, from Chefoo.
14, Taksang, British str., from Canton.
14, Mathilde, German str., from Pakhoi.
14, Independent, German str., from Canton.
14, Kong Alf, Norw. str., from Iloilo.
15, Doris, German str., from Canton.
15, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
15, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
15, Esmeralda, British str., from Manila.
15, Tamsui, British str., from Canton.
15, Dardanus, British str., from Liverpool.
15, Utrecht, Dutch str., from Singapore.
15, Sydney, French str., from Marseilles.
15, Stanfield, British bark, from Rajang.
15, Northbrook, British bark, from Cardiff.
16, Chingtu, British str., from Foochow.
16, Fooksang, British str., from Canton.
16, Hohenzollern, Ger. str., from Yokohama.
16, Kiangpak, British str., from Chindiang.
16, Shegama Maru, Jap. str., from Canton.
16, Triumph, German str., from Pakhoi.
16, Josephus, Amr. ship, from Shanghai.
17, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
17, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
17, Sachsen, German str., from Shanghai.
17, Victoria, Swedish str., from Singapore.
17, Choysang, British str., from Shanghai.
17, Oolong, British str., from London.
17, Tailee, German str., from Hongay.
17, Chowfa, British str., from Bangkok.
17, Fushun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
17, Catherine Apcar, Brit. str., from C'outta.
18, Salazie, French str., from Shanghai.
18, Ghazee, British str., from New York.
18, Hailoong, British str., from Tamsui.
18, Kriemhild, German str., from Hamburg.
18, Riojun Maru, Jap. str., from Kobe.
18, Chowtai, British str., from Bangkok.
18, Taichow, British str., from Bangkok.
18, Arisoura Maru, Jap. str., from Foochow.
18, Hikosan Maru, Jap. str., from K'otzu.
18, Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.
August—
DEPARTURES.
13, Peiyang, German str., for Shanghai.
13, Madusa, Austrian str., for Shanghai.
13, Flintshire, British steamer, for Nagasaki.
13, Alderley, British str., for Batavia.
13, Satsuma Maru, Jap. str., for Shanghai.
13, Tyr, Norwegian str., for Batavia.
13, Orono, British str., for Saigon.
13, Doris, German str., for Canton.
13, Aglaia, German str., for Yokohama.

- 13, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.
- 13, Hong Leong, British str., for Swatow.
- 13, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
- 13, Kweiyang, British str., for Swatow.
- 13, Marie Rickmers, Ger. str., for Singapore.
- 13, Mirzapore, British str., for Europe.
- 14, Clara, German str., for Shanghai.
- 14, Progress, German str., for Touron.
- 14, Deuterios, German str., for Saigon.
- 14, Humber, H.B.M. storeship, for Yokohama.
- 14, Devawongse, British str., for Bangkok.
- 14, Fooksang, British str., for Canton.
- 14, Kiangnan, British str., for Swatow.
- 14, Verona, British str., for Yokohama.
- 15, Independent, German str., for Chefoo.
- 15, Sydney, French str., for Shanghai.
- 15, Taksang, British str., for Amoy.
- 15, Tamsui, British str., for Swatow.
- 15, Toyohashi Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.
- 15, Wingsang, British str., for Swatow.
- 16, Brunhilde, German str., for Saigon.
- 16, Chwnshan, British str., for Swatow.
- 16, Chingping, Chinese str., for Tientsin.
- 16, Chiynen, Chinese str., for Canton.
- 16, City of Peking, Amr. str., for S. Francisco.
- 16, Dardanus, British str., for Shanghai.
- 16, Doris, German str., for Chefoo.
- 16, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
- 16, Ingraban, German str., for Singapore.
- 16, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.
- 16, Mathilde, German str., for Hoihow.
- 16, Taicheong, German str., for Swatow.
- 16, Wongkoi, British str., for Bangkok.
- 17, Moumouthshire, British str., for Amoy.
- 17, Sishan, British str., for Swatow.
- 17, Choysang, British str., for Canton.
- 18, Chingtu, British str., for Australia.
- 18, Fushun, Chinese str., for Canton.
- 18, Kiangpak, British str., for Canton.
- 18, Sachsen, German str., for Europe.
- 18, Tailee, German str., for Canton.
- 18, Tritos, German str., for Saigon.
- 18, Fooksang, British str., for Swatow.
- 18, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
- 18, Kong Beng, British str., for Bangkok.
- 18, Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.
- 18, Victoria, Swedish str., for Amoy.

AMOY.

- August—
- ARRIVALS.
- 7, Haimun, British str., from Hongkong.
 - 7, Namyong, British str., from Hongkong.
 - 7, Ran, Norw. str., from Newchwang.
 - 7, Chintung, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 - 8, Haitan, British str., from Hongkong.
 - 8, Hailoong, British str., from Hongkong.
 - 8, Strathnevis, British str., from Foochow.
 - 9, Hupeh, British str., from Hongkong.
 - 11, Haimun, British str., from Tamsui.
 - 11, Chefoo, British str., from Newchwang.
 - 12, Thales, British str., from Hongkong.
 - 12, Cheangchow, British str., from Swatow.
 - 12, Sabine Rickmers, Ger. str., from Hongkong.
- August—
- DEPARTURES.
- 6, Orestes, British str., for Hongkong.
 - 6, Kalgan, British str., for Shanghai.
 - 7, Haimun, British str., for Tamsui.
 - 7, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.
 - 8, Federation, British str., for Java.
 - 8, Haitan, British str., for Foochow.
 - 8, Hailoong, British str., for Tamsui.
 - 9, Strathnevis, British str., for New York.
 - 10, Hupeh, British str., for Vancouver.
 - 11, Namyong, British str., for Straits.
 - 11, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
 - 11, Chintung, Chinese str., for Swatow.
 - 12, Ran, Norw. str., for Japan.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

- Per *Ingraban*, str., from Singapore, &c.—Mr. P. Deifrens.
- Per *Doric*, str., from San Francisco, &c.—Mr. and Mrs. Braidwood, Messrs. G. H. Wheeler and G. E. Stewart.
- Per *Chi Yuen*, str., from Shanghai.—Mr. Bonsal.
- Per *Esmeralda*, str., from Manila &c.—Mr. and Mrs. Marc Sinet and child, Messrs. R. Levy, R. Feldtman, Henry Howitz, Leon Howitz, F. A. East, R. Walker, and Gabriel Jorge, and Mrs. Edith Lawrence.
- Per *Haitan*, str., from East Coast.—Master Wilnam, Mr. Soelbey, and 166 Chinese.
- Per *Utrecht*, str., from Singapore &c.—Mr. C. Cowen.

Per *Sydney*, str., from Marseilles for Hongkong.—Mr. Honi. From Singapore.—Messrs. Vaughan, Dowse, and Geo. Bowack, Loh E. Yew, Lee Yung, and Goh Yang Mee, and Mr. and Mrs. Seah Kim Cheok. From Saigon.—Mr. Angelleve, and 304 Chinese. From Marseilles for Shanghai.—Mr. Vossy Bourbon, Mr. Levy, and Miss Steil. From Port Said.—Messrs. Totch, Lapinsky, and Mr. Chun, and Mr. and Mrs. Low Chin Chow. From Singapore for Kobe.—Mr. Barton Wright and Mrs. Clara Cohen. From Marseilles for Yokohama.—Major General and Mrs. Soubotich, Mr. and Mrs. Ishu, and two children, Messrs. von Roskowsky, Pillot, Mazier, Grenet, Brochen, Katayama, and Mevel. From Singapore.—Capt. Versturme, Lieut. MacIntosh, and Mr. Harry Merecki, Mr. and Mrs. Richter and child. From Saigon.—Mr. and Mrs. Paillis and child, and Mr. Charria.

Per *Chingtu*, str., from Foochow for Australia.—Messrs. Allen and Kavanagh.

Per *Hohenzollern*, str., from Japan.—Messrs. T. L. Edge and Becker and family, Mr. and Mrs. Blane, Messrs. D. Allen, J. Winter, G. Mackay, J. M. Flashan, and James Spark.

Per *Hongkong*, steamer, from Haiphong.—Pere Dumoulin, and Mr. Delineau.

Per *Sachsen*, str., from Shanghai.—Mr. and Mrs. Seannett.

Per *Oolong*, str., from London, &c.—Mr. Harvey.

Per *Chowfa*, str., from Bangkok.—Miss da Costa, Mrs. MacLaine and child.

Per *Catherine Apcar*, str., from Calcutta, &c.—Mr. and Mrs. Jamadar Jan Mahomed, Mr. and Mrs. Ho Ha and child, and Mr. Kim Kong Sing.

DEPARTED.

Per *Empress of China*, str., for Amoy.—Messrs. T. G. Gowland and G. C. Bouman. For Shanghai.—Mr. C. S. Taylor. For Kobe.—Mrs. and Miss Humphreys, Miss Barker, Misses Humphreys (3), Messrs. J. R. Michael, R. T. Wright, R. Shewan, F. F. Cassimally, and Ma Yut Tong. For Yokohama.—Mrs. Osborne and child, Mrs. G. C. Cox, Mr. and Mrs. Blair, and Lieut. C. U. Percival. For Banff.—Mr. B. Layton. For New York.—Mr. Doherty. For London.—Mr. and Mrs. Knaggs, Miss Knaggs, Surg.-Major and Mrs. Hayes, Col. Anstey, and Col. Barr.

Per *Mirzapore*, str., from Hongkong for Singapore.—Mrs. Pell, and Mr. Fras. E. Crimp. For London.—Messrs. W. F. Mitchell, B.N., Thos. L. Daniels, B.N., F. W. Bird, and W. G. Bird. From Shanghai for Brindisi.—Signora Monti, and Miss Monti. For London.—Messrs. E. W. Monkhouse and W. S. Simpson. From Yokohama for Port Said.—Mr. A. Flinsch.

Per *Marie Rickmers*, str., for Singapore.—Messrs. Robert Rickmers and G. Lange.

Per *Lightning*, str., for Singapore.—Messrs. Choo Nam, Choo Kiu Wan, C. J. da Silva, and Lun Kit Sang. For Penang.—Mr. and Mrs. Lum Yat Ting, Mrs., Miss, and Master Ellis.

Per *Verona*, str., for Yokohama from London.—Messrs. Jackson and H. Lowe. From Singapore.—Mr. A. G. Wise.

Per *Sydney*, str., from Hongkong for Shanghai.—Messrs. Geo. Bowack, P. Leroy, and H. Papillaud. For Kobe.—Mr. Li Kin Sung. For Yokohama.—Miss L. Ray, and Lieut. M. Ray. For Shanghai from Marseilles.—Mr. Vossy Bourbon, Miss Steil, and Mr. Levy. From Port Said.—Mr. and Mrs. Low Chin Chow, Messrs. Chun, Lapinsky, and Totch. For Kobe from Singapore.—Mr. Barton Wright, and Mrs. Clara Cohen. For Yokohama from Marseilles.—Major-General Soubotich, Capt. Pillot, Capt. Mazier, Lieut. Grenet, Mr. Brochen, Mr. and Mrs. Ishu and 2 children, Messrs. Katayama and Mevel. From Singapore.—Capt. Versturme, Lieut. MacIntosh, Mr. Harry Merecki, Mr. and Mrs. Richter and child. From Saigon.—Mrs. Paillis, Messrs. Paillis and Charria.

Per *City of Peking*, str., for Yokohama.—Mr. Adolf Zikel, Mrs. Thorlon, Mr. N. M. Pond. For San Francisco.—Mr. J. H. Harrison.

HONGKONG.

STEAMERS.

- Activ, Danish steamer, 355, MoIsaac, June 16, A. R. Marty.
- Afridi, British str., 2,354, Golding, June 27, Dedwell, Carlill & Co.
- Amarapoor, Brit. str., 1,619, Cameron, July 9, M. B. Kaisha.
- Arisoura Maru, Jap. str., 1,136, Yamamoto, Aug. 18, Chinese.
- Brand, Norw. str., 1,520, Evensen, July 22, Wieler & Co.
- Catherine Apcar, British str., 1,733, Olifent, Aug. 17, David Sassoon, Sons & Co.
- Chowfa, British steamer, 994, Todd, Aug. 17, Yuen Fat Hong.
- Chowtai, British str., 1,115, Morris, Aug. 18, Yuen Fat Hong.
- Crown of Arragon, British str., 1,495, Dorward, Aug. 12, Gilman & Co.
- Donar, German str., 1,015, Grundmann, Aug. 1, Chinese.
- Doric, British steamer, 4,675, Smith, Aug. 13, O. & O. S. S. Co.
- Esmeralda, British str., 966, Tayler, Aug. 15, Shewan, Tones & Co.
- Fatshan, British str., 1,425, R. B. Blight, H. C. & M. Steamboat Co., for Canton.
- Germania, German str., 1,132, Bendixen, Aug. 9, Jebson & Co.
- Ghazee, British str., 1,764, Bailey, Aug. 18, Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
- Hailoong, British steamer, 783, Davis, Aug. 18, Douglas Lapraik & Co.
- Hankow, British str., 2,235, Dick, Butterfield & Swire, for Canton.
- Heungshan, British str., 1,054, W. E. Clarke, H. C. & M. Steamboat Co., for Macao.
- Hikosan Maru, Jap. str., 2,269, Holstrom, Aug. 18, M. B. Kaisha.
- Holstein, German str., 1,150, Bruhn, Aug. 4, Jebson & Co.
- Hohenzollern, Ger. str., 2,039, Harrassowitz, Aug. 16, Melchers & Co.
- Honam, British str., 1,344, H. C. & M. Steamboat Co., for Canton.
- Hongkong, French str., 739, Bastian, Aug. 17, A. R. Marty.
- Jacob Christensen, Norw. str., 1,088, Hansen, Aug. 8, Melchers & Co.
- Kong Alf, British str., 485, Thinn, Aug. 14, Order.
- Kriemhild, German str., 1,623, Forck, Aug. 18, Siemssen & Co.
- Kutsang, British str., 1,459, Payne, Aug. 11, Jardine, Matheson & Co.
- Kwonghoi, British steamer, 419, Chinese, for Canton.
- Lyeemoon, Ger. str., 1,238, Heuermann, Aug. 18, Siemssen & Co.
- Macduff, British str., 1,881, Thomson, July 15, Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
- Nanyang, German str., 983, Schulz, July 26, Siemssen & Co.
- Oolong, British str., 2,308, Conradi, Aug. 17, Holliday, Wise & Co.
- Pasig, British str., 284, Chinese, for Canton.
- Petrarch, Norw. str., 1,252, Schall, July 11, Wieler & Co.
- Picciola, German steamer, 762, Hass, July 16, Siemssen & Co.
- Powan, British str., 1,842, S. W. Goggin, H. C. & M. Steamboat Co., for Canton.
- Recorder, British str., 676, Brereton, Aug. 9, E. E. A. & C. Telegraph Co.
- Riojun Maru, Jap. str., 3,010, McKennie, Aug. 18, Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
- Salazie, French steamer, 2,088, Paul, Aug. 18, Messageries Maritimes.
- Shagama Maru, Jap. str., 2,000, Seda, Aug. 13, Order.
- Siam, British steamer, 946, Messer, Aug. 11, Butterfield & Swire.
- Strathallan, British str., 1,487, Macoubrey, July 20, Jardine, Matheson & Co.
- Sulberg, German steamer, 784, Jessen, Aug. 7, Siemssen & Co.
- Taichow, British str., 862, Morgan, Aug. 18, Butterfield & Swire.
- Tai On, British str., 769, Galleonski, Chinese, for Canton.
- Tancred, Norwegian str., 734, Kroger, July 4, Harling, Buschmann & Menzell.
- Triumph, German steamer, 674, Moller, Aug. 16, Jebson & Co.
- Utrecht, Dutch str., 1,715, Pekelaar, Aug. 15, Lants, Wegener & Co.